

# phoenix

## CIVIL WAR

THE END

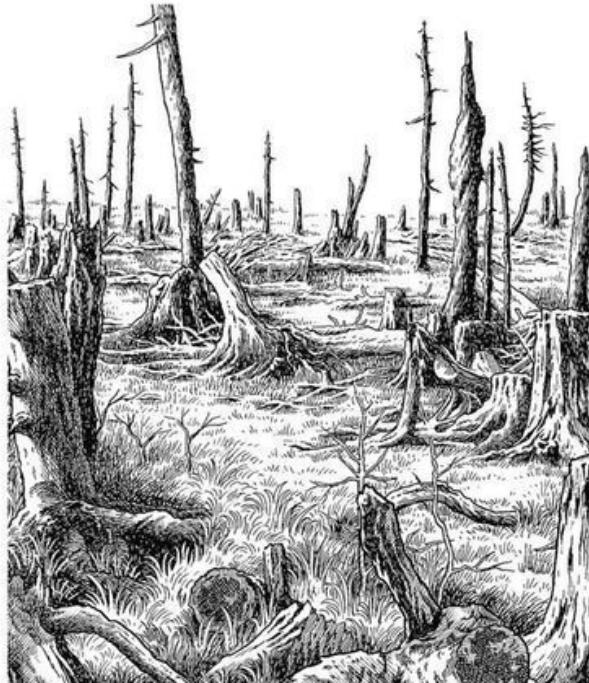
OSAMU TEZUKA

THE END

# phoenix

**CIVIL WAR**

**PART TWO/Robe of Feathers**



**BY OSAMU TEZUKA**

Phoenix: Civil War: Part 2 and Robe of Feathers  
Vol. 8  
VIZ Signature Edition

STORY AND ART BY  
OSAMU TEZUKA

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A message to our readership:

Some of the phrasing and expressions in the work you are about to read reflect the time and context in which it was originally created and thus might not be in accordance with present standards. The author had an unflinching dedication to conveying several themes through the art of manga, such as the importance of nature, love and peace; a warning against the idolization of science, and the preciousness of life. It is clear that at the root of his work there is a strong belief in the power of human love overall.

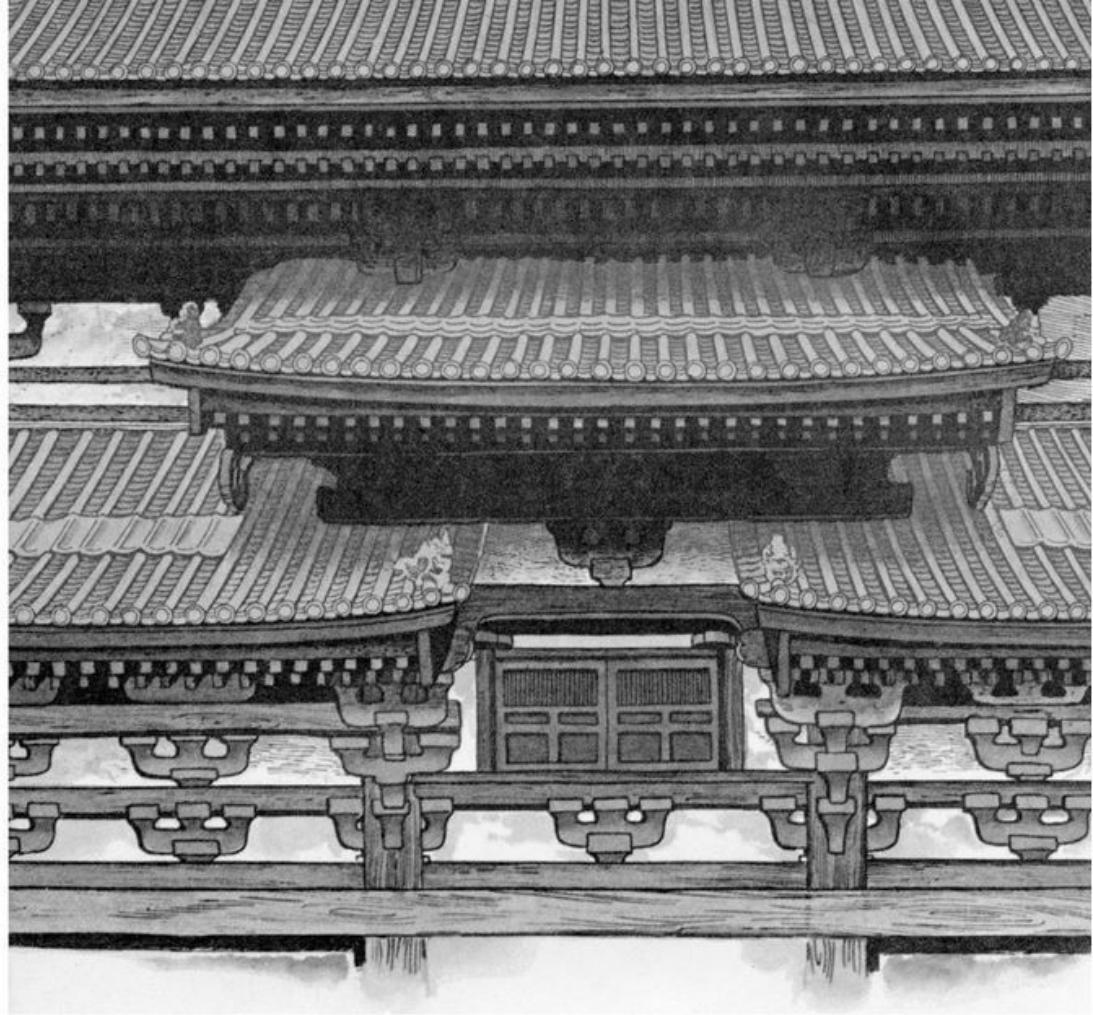
We believe that publishing a faithful translation is essential to accurately conveying the message within the work itself as intended by the author, as well as protecting its integrity as a part of Japan's cultural heritage and preserving it for future generations. We therefore appreciate your understanding as you enjoy this work of art.

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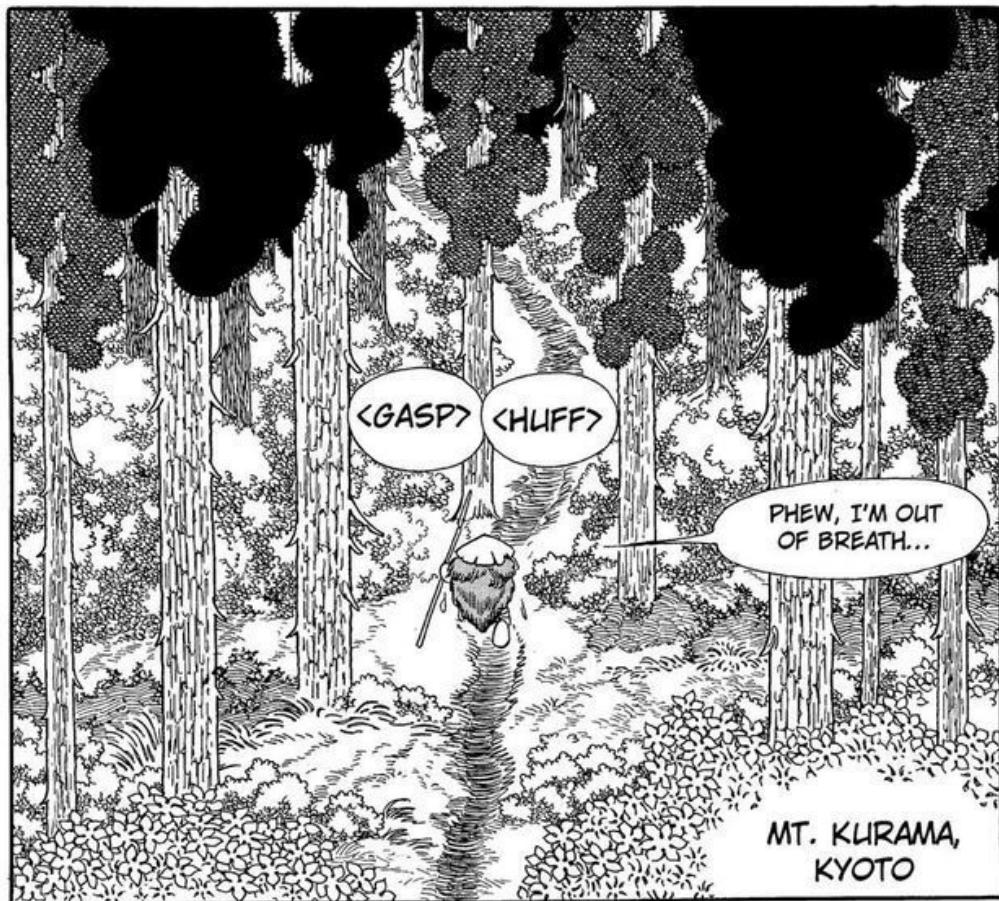
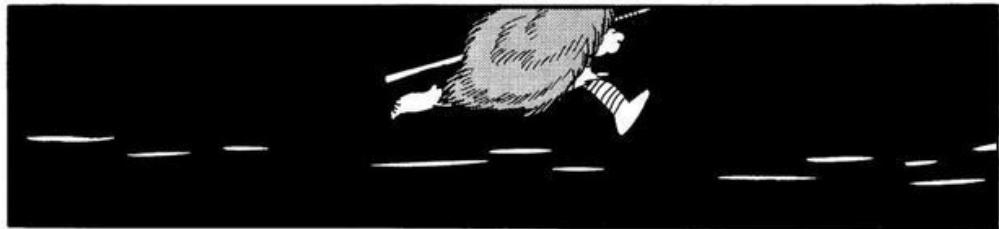


phoenix



FEBRUARY, OF THE LEAP YEAR 1181

KIYOMORI FELL ILL WITH A HIGH FEVER. HE WAS PROBABLY SUFFERING FROM PNEUMONIA, WHICH HAD DEVELOPED FROM A BAD COLD. BUT THEN, SUDDENLY, HIS CONDITION WORSENED EVEN FURTHER....





ONE OF THE RUMORS I HEARD SAYS THAT SAMURAI, WITH HEADS OF HORSES AND OXEN, CHARGED INTO KIYOMORI'S COMPOUND PULLING AN EMPTY COACH. AND "MU" WAS WRITTEN ON THE FRONT OF THE COACH!

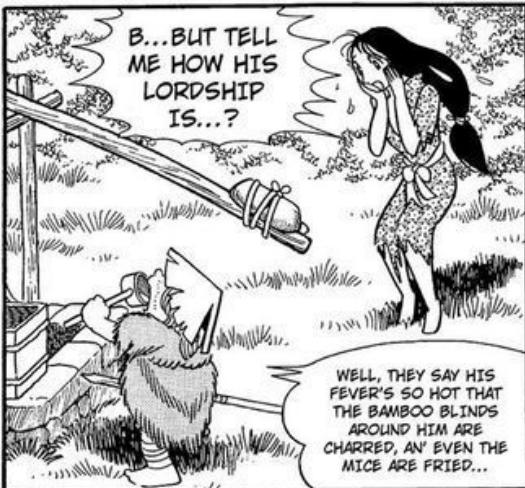
)) IT'S THE CHARACTER FOR "NOTHING," AND IN THIS CASE, THEY SAY IT ALSO MEANS A "NEVER ENDING HELL..." ))

B...BUT TELL ME HOW HIS LORDSHIP IS...?

WELL, THEY SAY HIS FEVER'S SO HOT THAT THE BAMBOO BLINDS AROUND HIM ARE CHARRED, AN' EVEN THE MICE ARE FRIED...

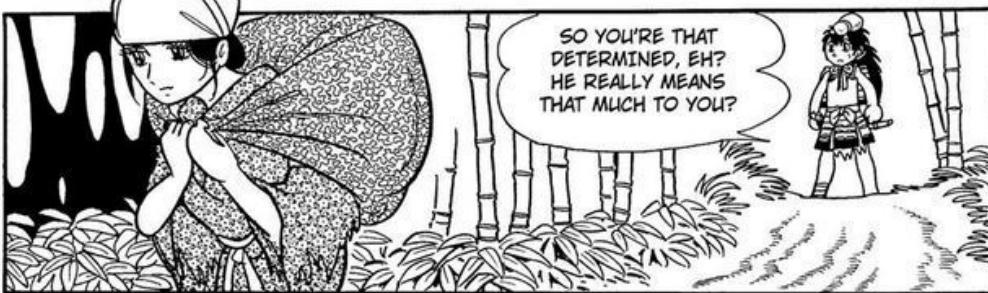
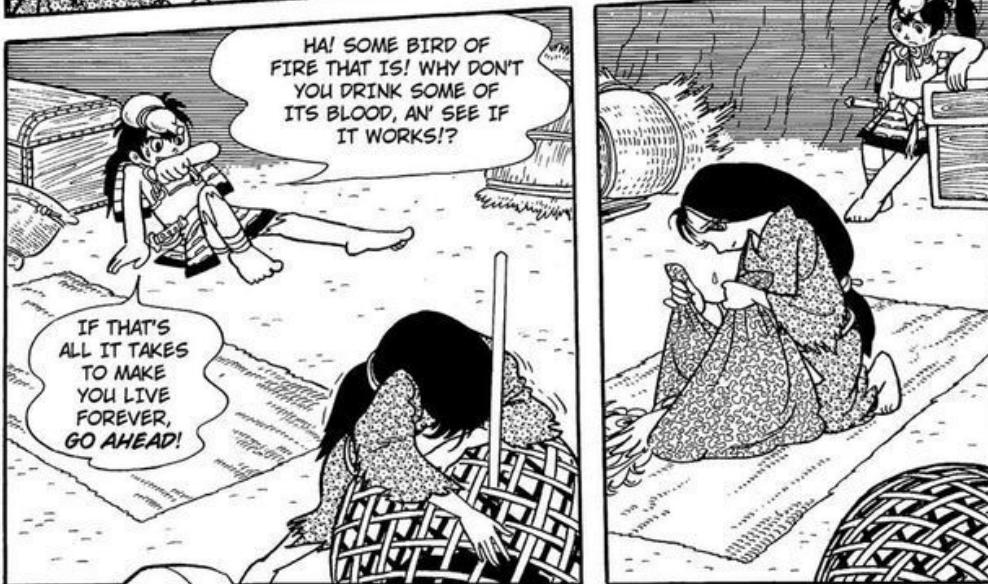
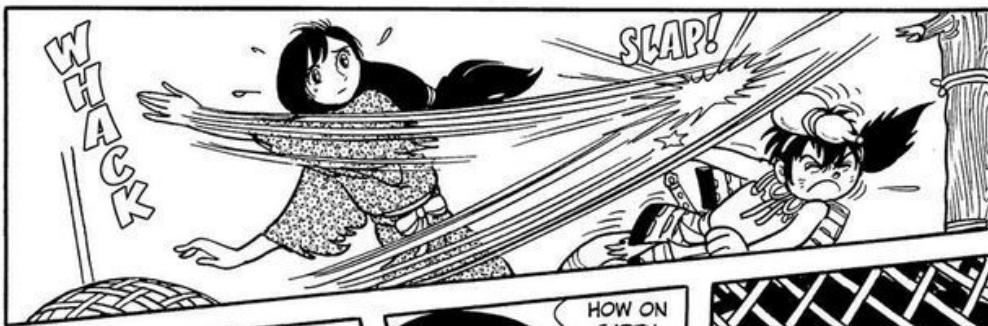
I MUST GO TO HIM, AT ONCE...

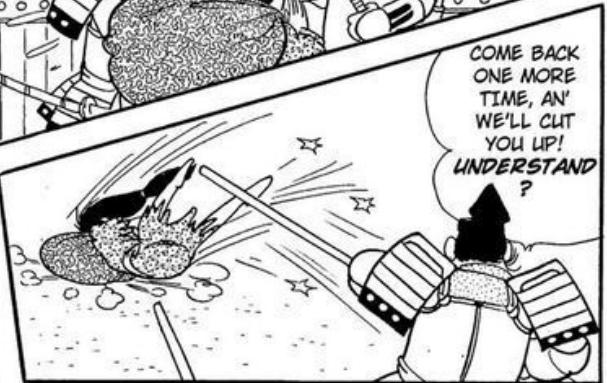
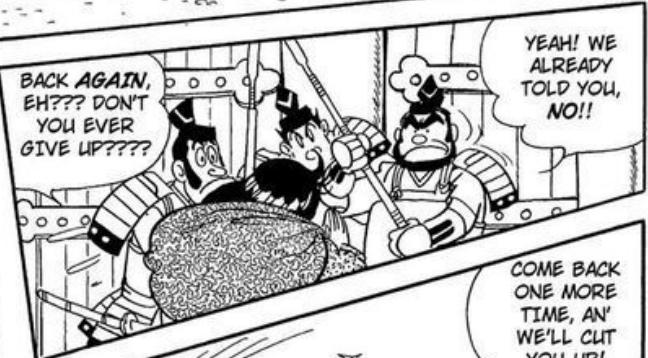
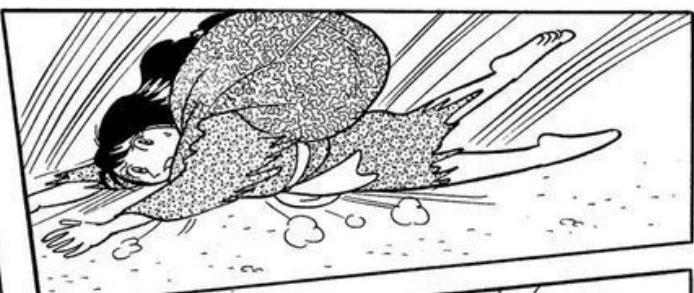
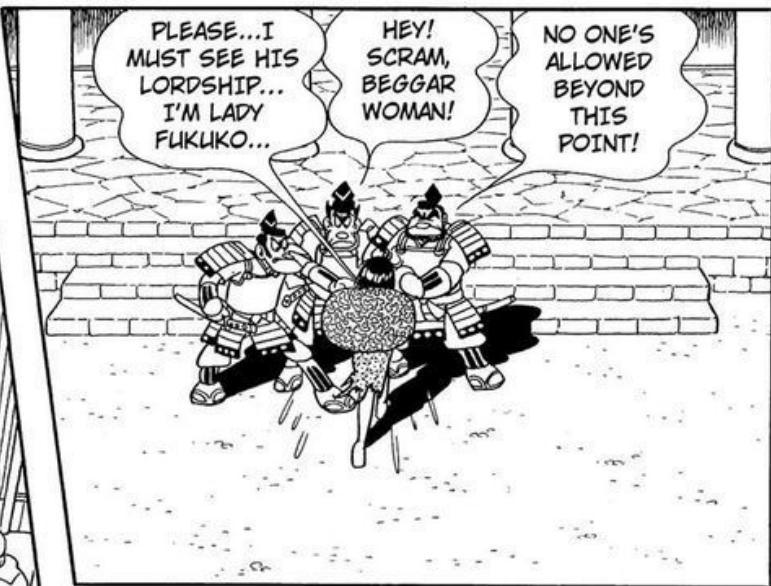
WAIT!

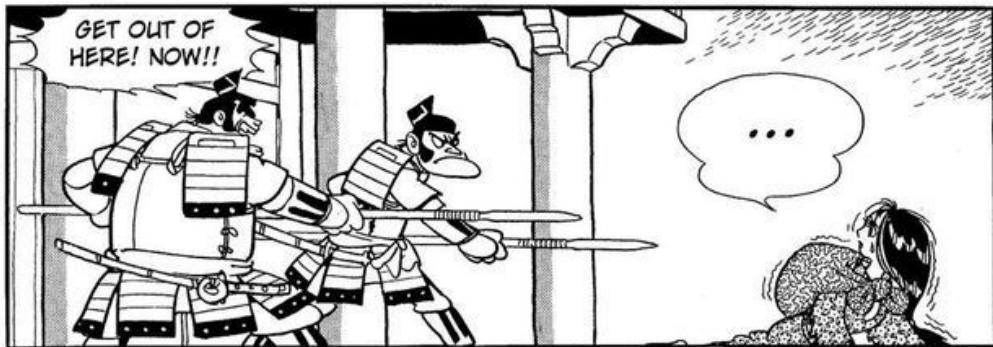


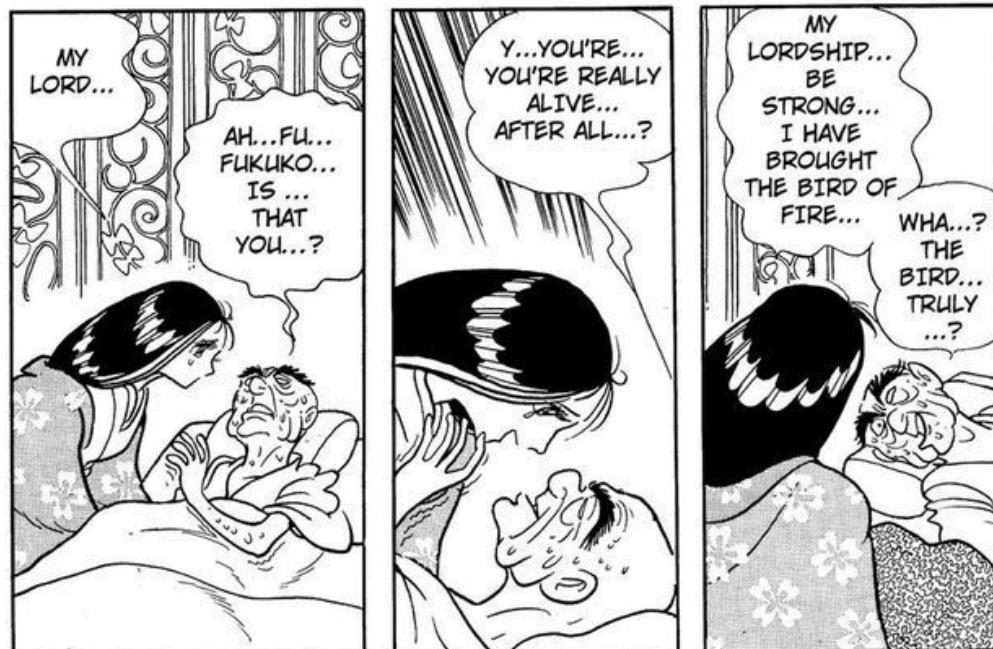
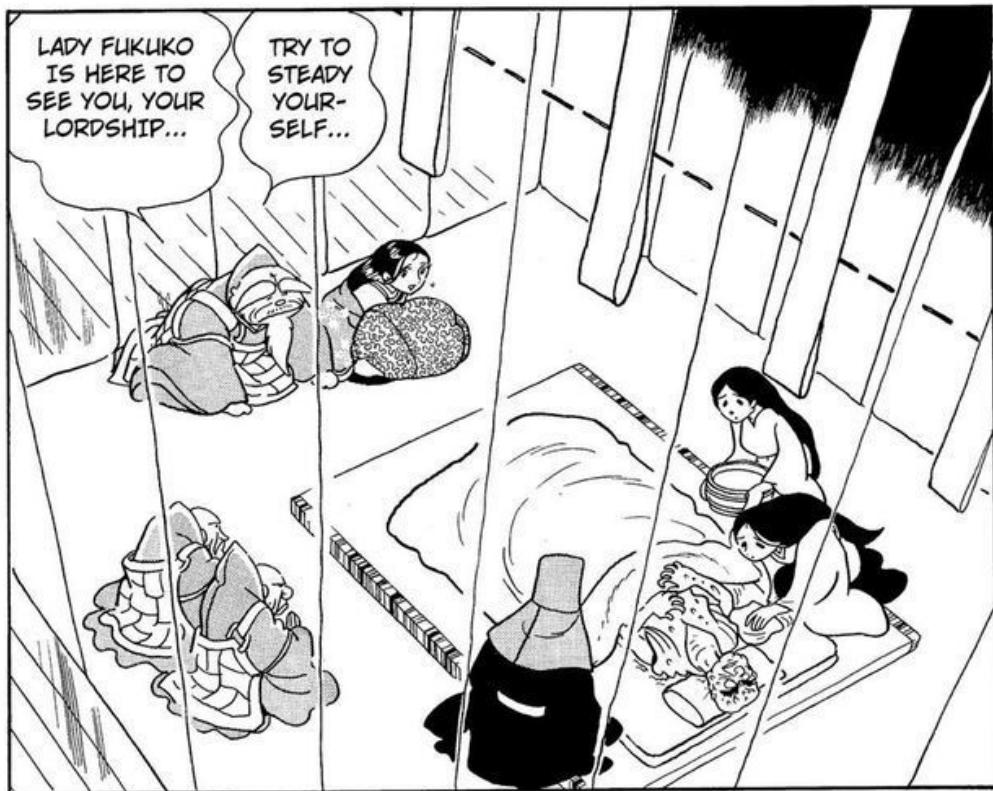






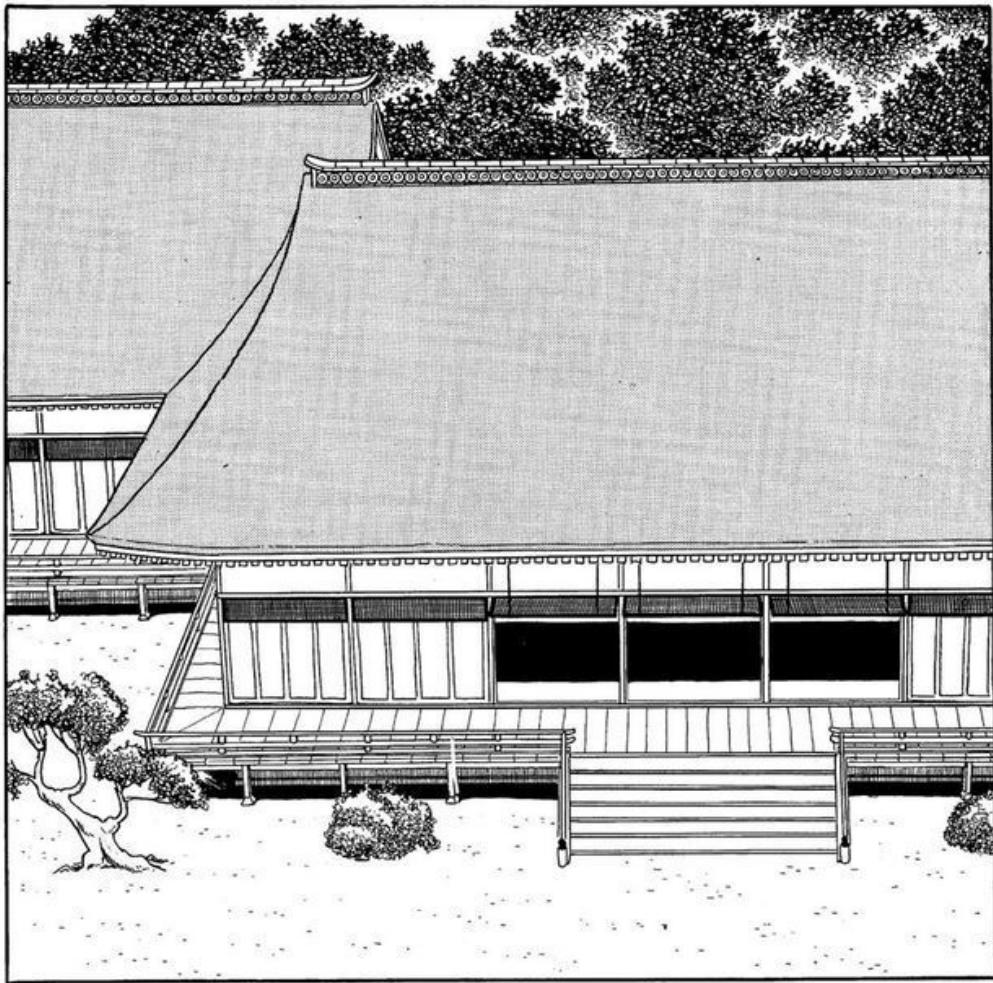


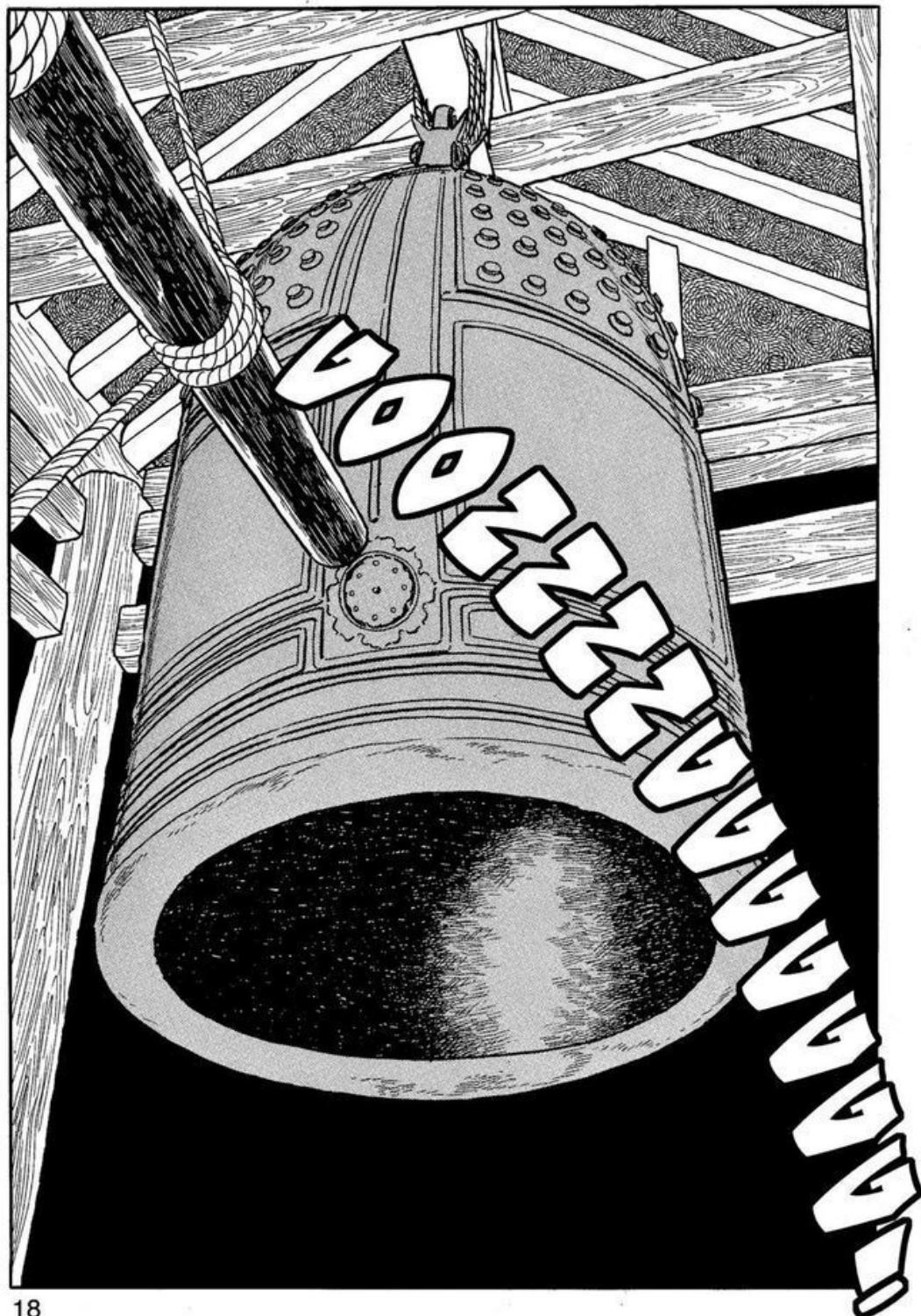














GONG!



GONG!



GONG!



GONG!

G O B G  
O N O O  
N N N  
G G G



IT'S  
FINALLY  
HAPPENED  
!

KIYO-  
MORI'S  
DEAD!

KIYO-  
MORI'S  
REALLY  
DEAD...

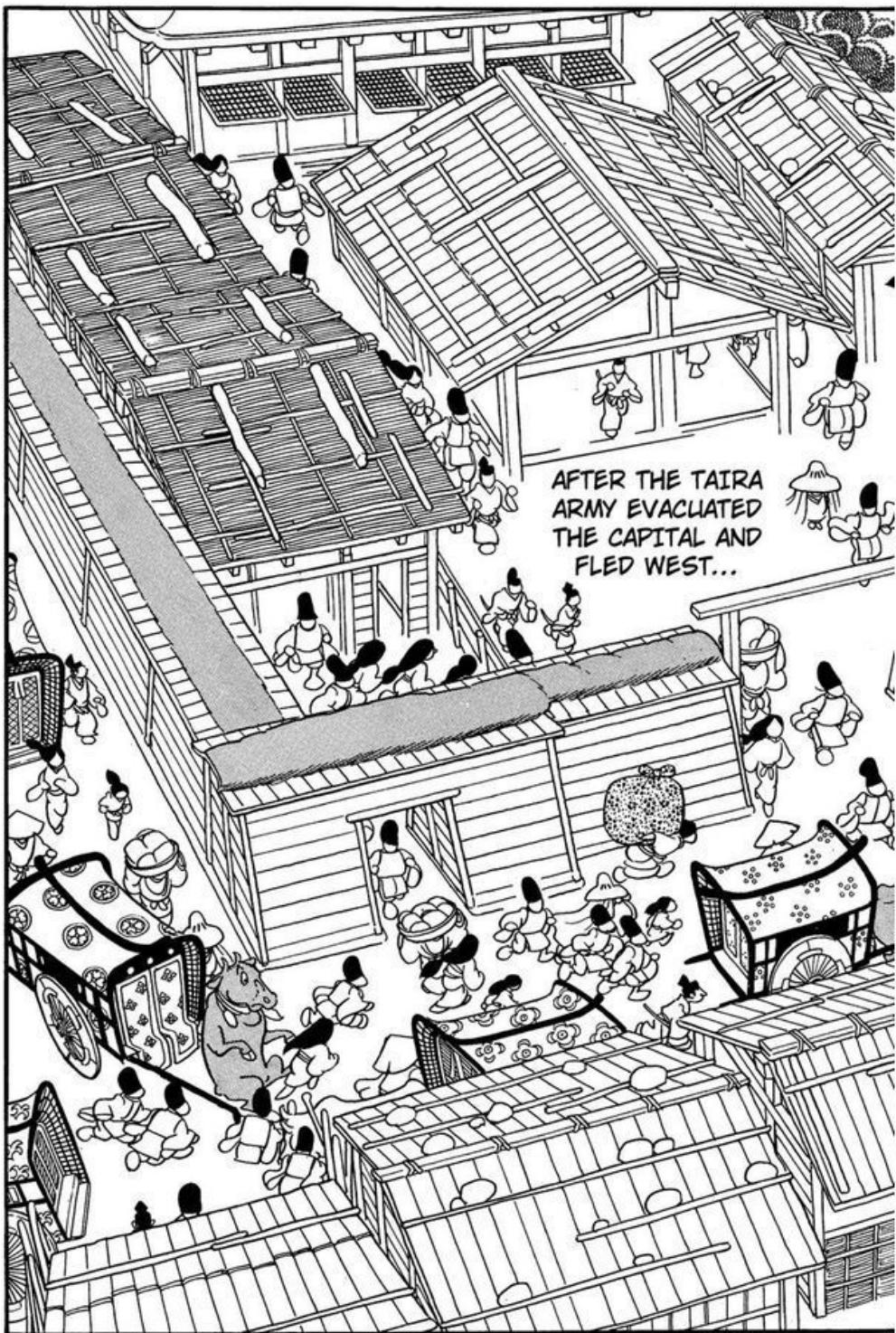
WHAT'LL  
HAPPEN  
NOW!?

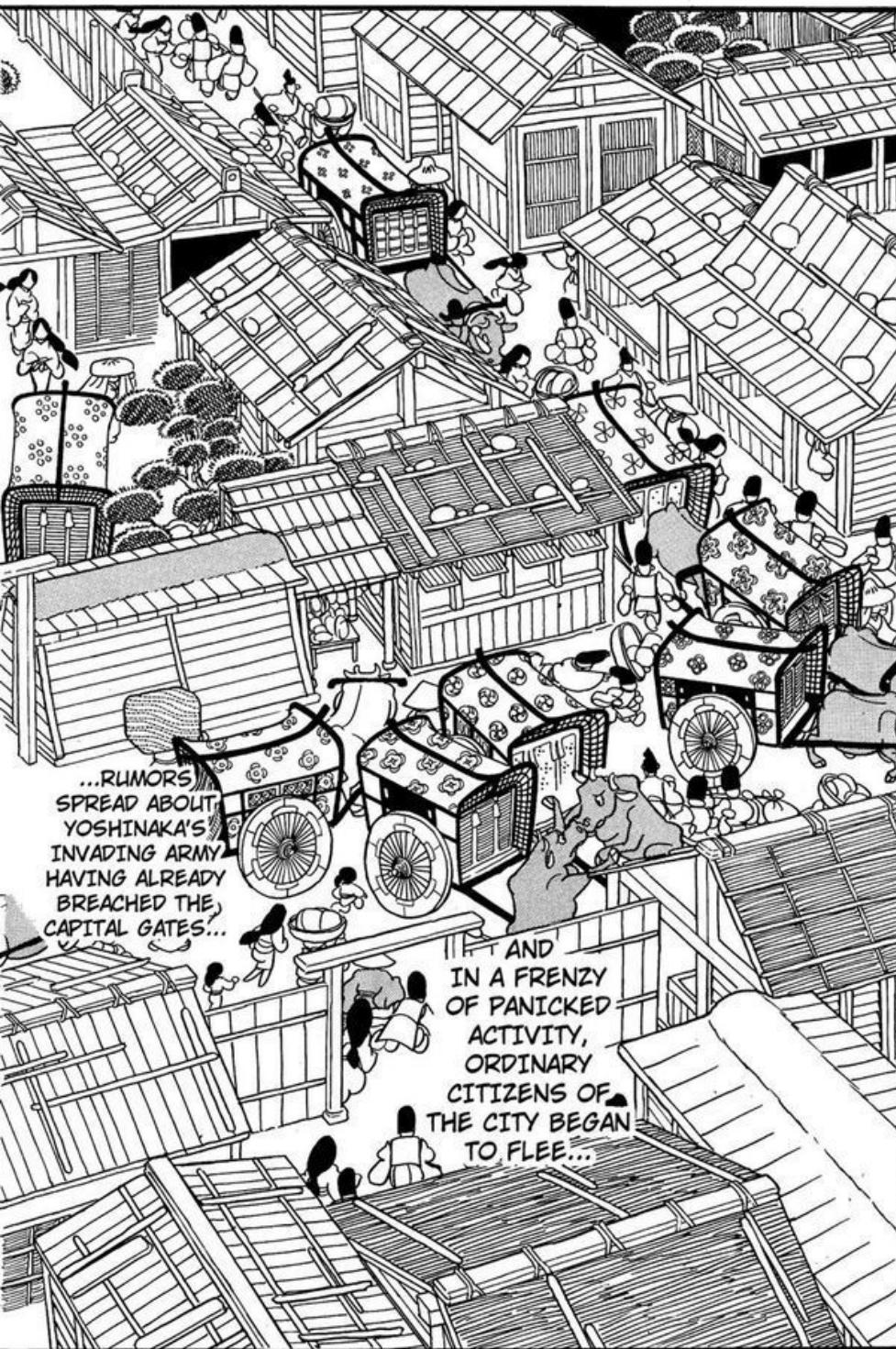
ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER KIYOMORI'S DEATH, KISO YOSHINAKA, OF THE NORTHERN REGION, LED AN UPRISING AGAINST THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. IT WAS ALMOST AS IF HE HAD BEEN WAITING FOR THE MOMENT ALL ALONG.

IN AN EFFORT TO BLUNT YOSHINAKA'S CHALLENGE, THE TAIRA CLAN HASTILY RAISED A HUGE ARMY, BUT THEIR DISORGANIZATION SOON LED TO A MAJOR DEFEAT AT KURIKARA PASS, AND THEY WERE FORCED TO RETREAT BACK TO THE CAPITAL IN DISARRAY.

CAPITALIZING ON THE MOMENTUM OF HIS VICTORY, YOSHINAKA LED HIS ARMY TO THE CAPITAL. THE TAIRA RESPONDED BY SETTING FIRE TO THEIR OWN HOMES. THEN, AFTER TAKING THE YOUNG EMPEROR ANTOKU WITH THEM, THE TAIRA FLED WESTWARD TO THE ISLAND OF SHIKOKU.

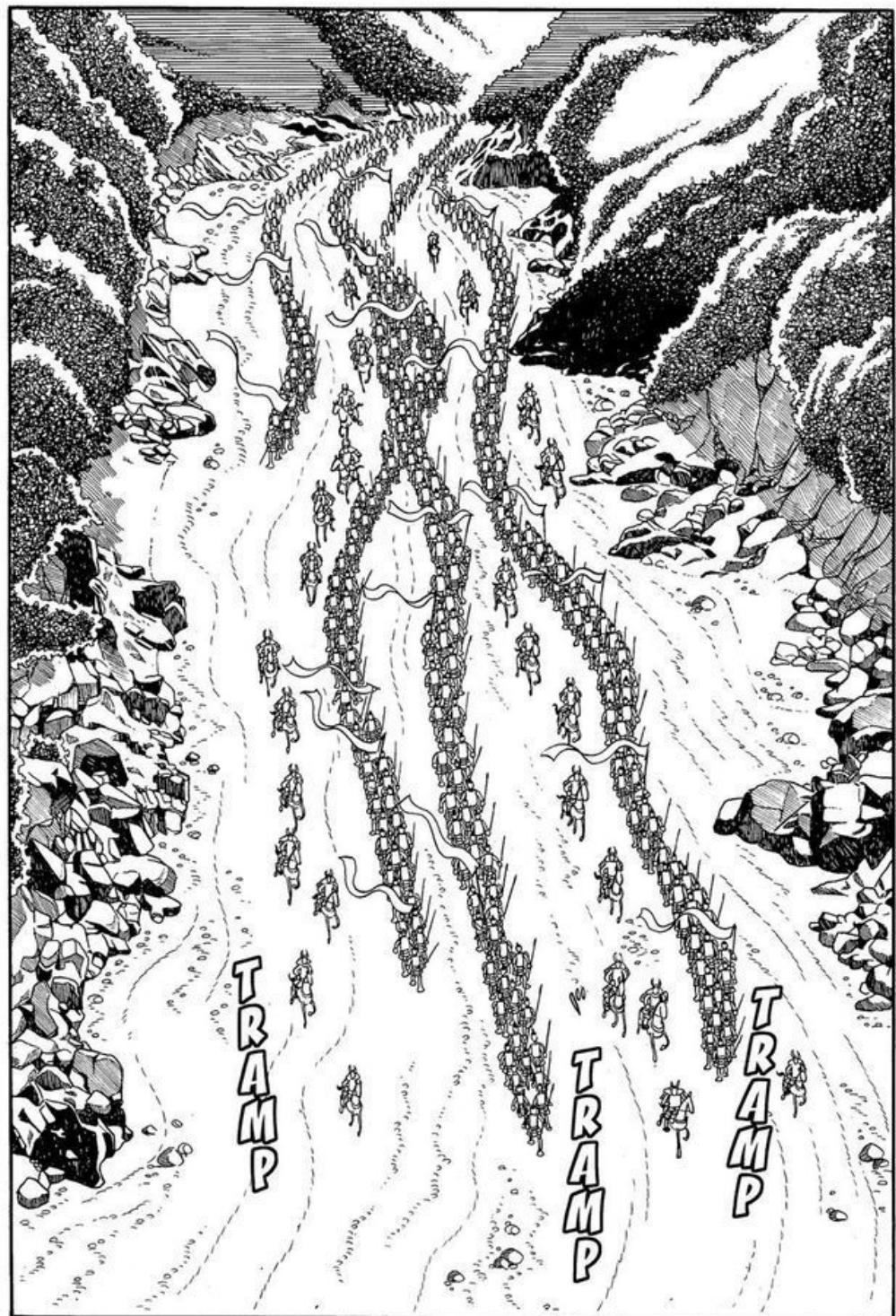




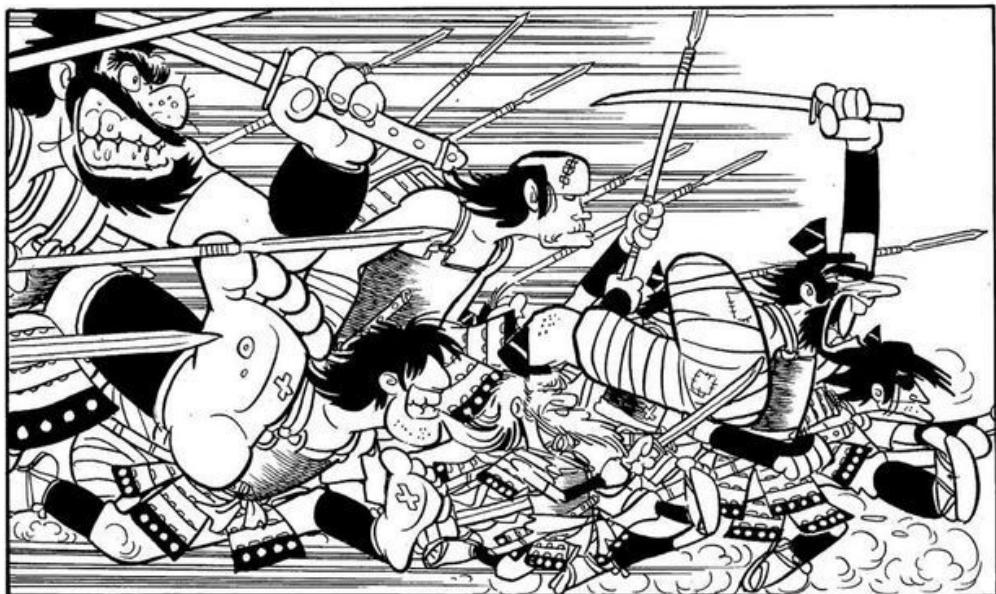


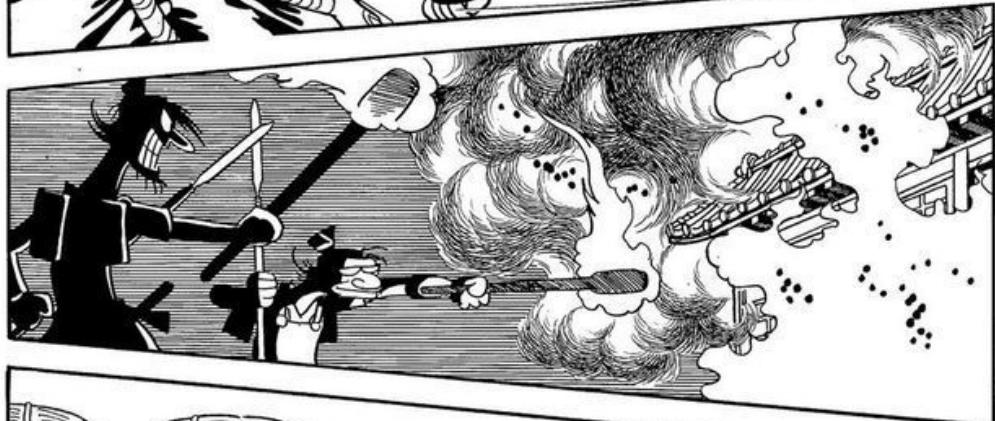
...RUMORS  
SPREAD ABOUT  
YOSHINAKA'S  
INVADING ARMY  
HAVING ALREADY  
BREACHED THE  
CAPITAL GATES...

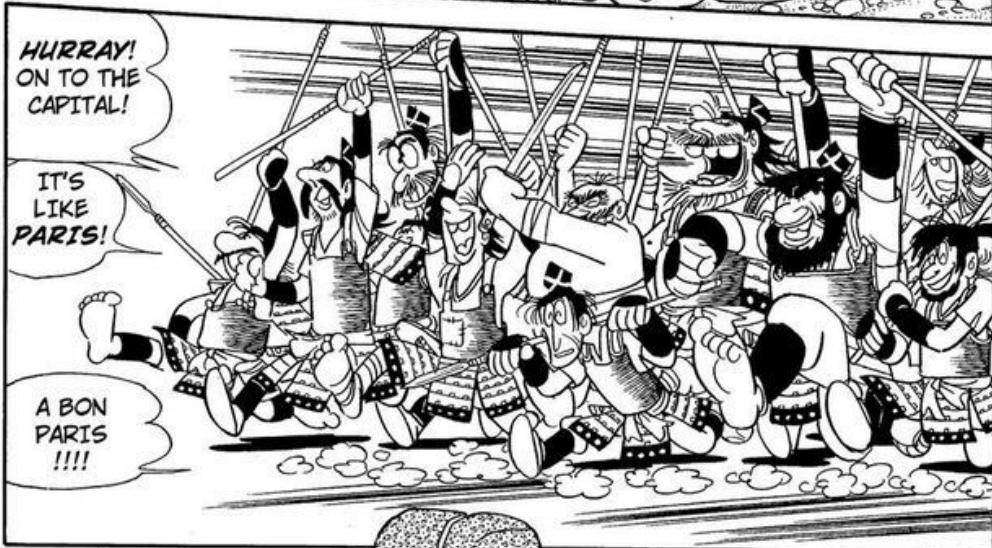
AND  
IN A FRENZY  
OF PANICKED  
ACTIVITY,  
ORDINARY  
CITIZENS OF  
THE CITY BEGAN  
TO FLEE...

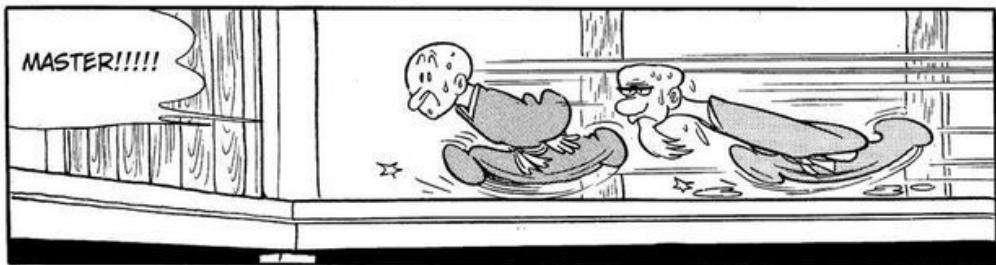
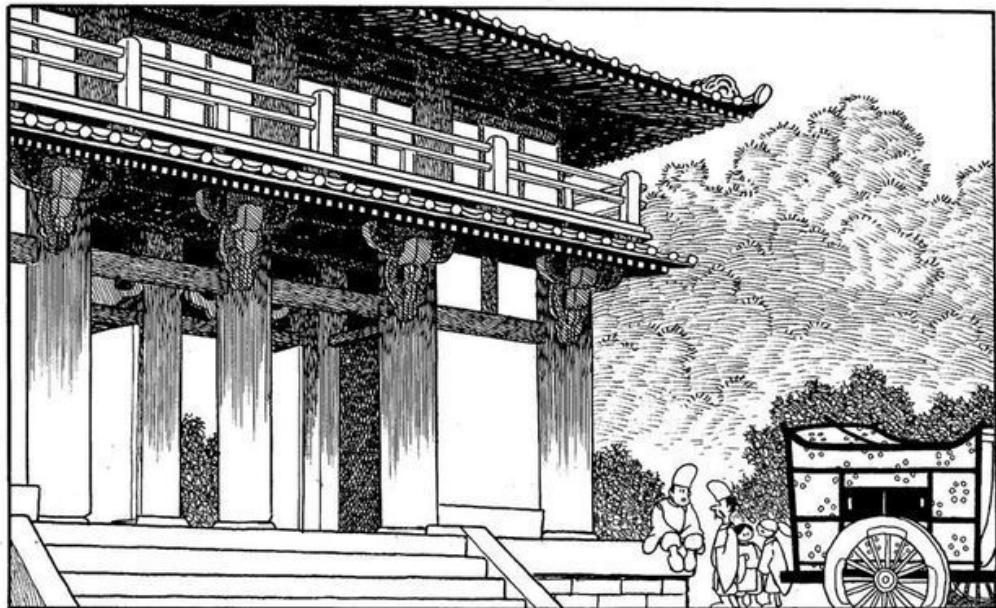


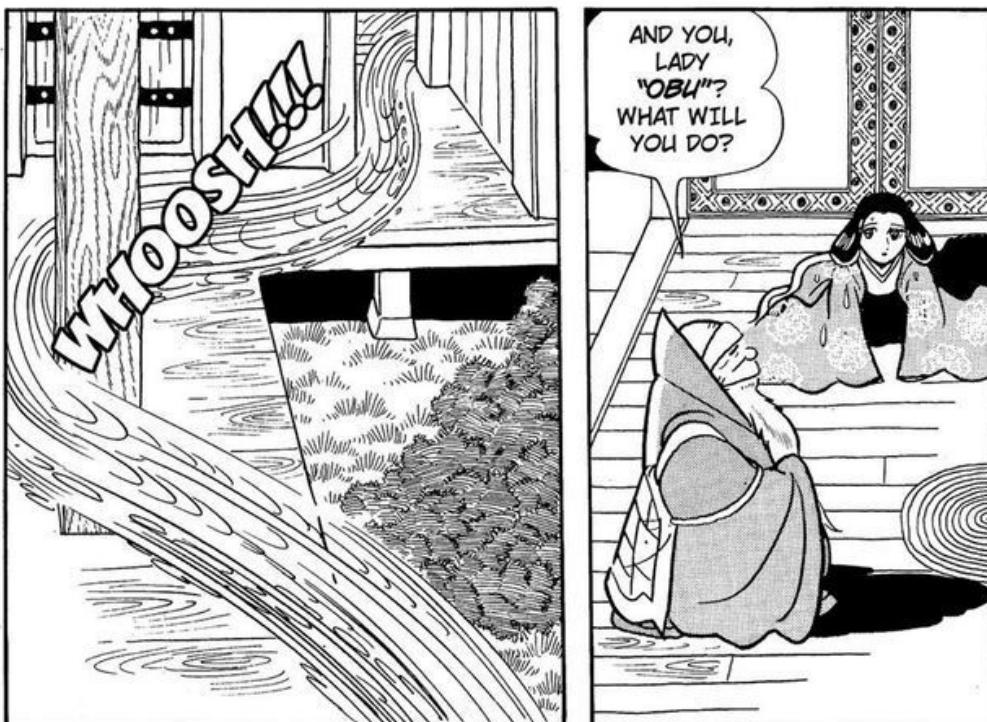
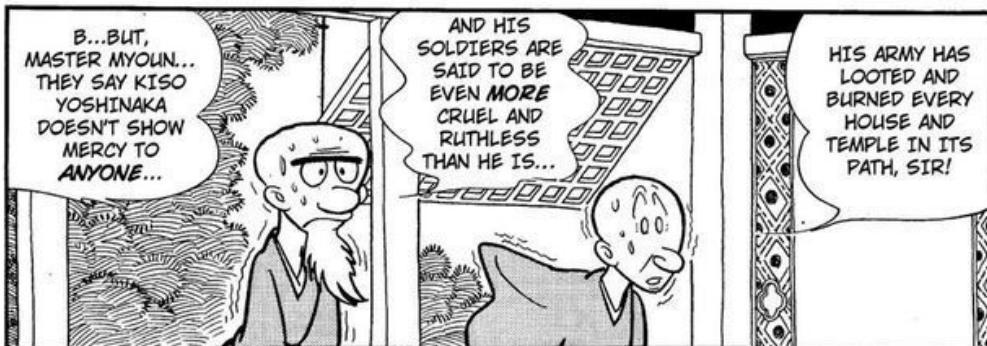
# CHARGE!

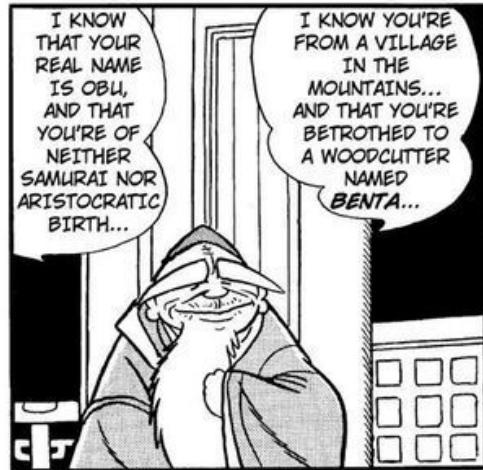




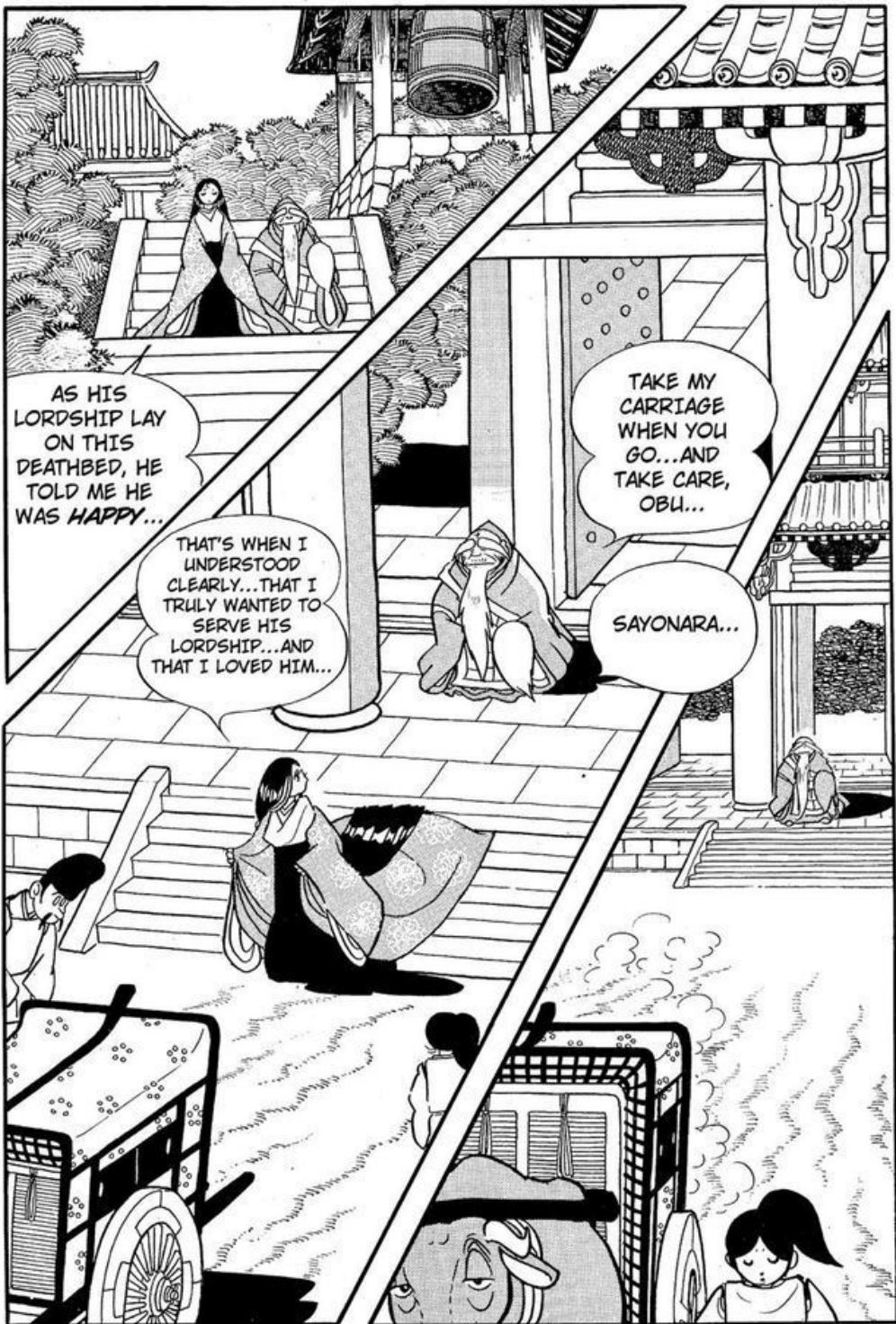






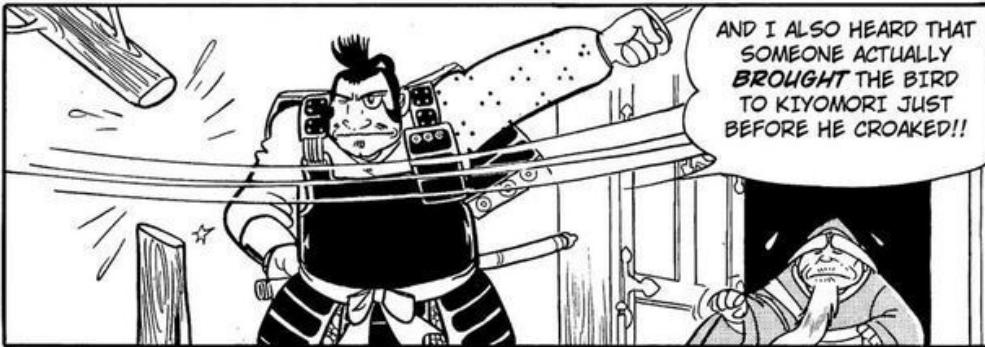
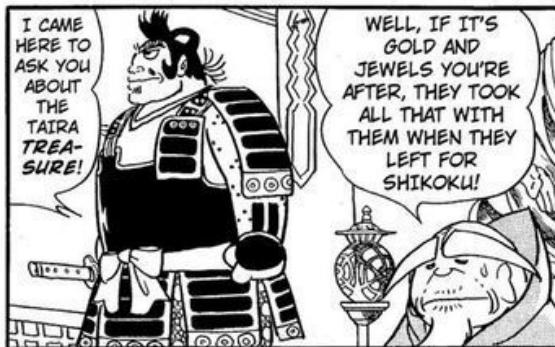












WELL, I  
WANT THAT  
FIREBIRD  
FOR  
MYSELF!

OF COURSE YOU  
CAN'T FIND THE  
FIREBIRD...IT  
WAS JUST AN  
ORDINARY BIRD,  
THAT'S WHY!

EVER SINCE I  
FIRST HEARD THE  
STORY, I'VE BEEN  
DREAMING THAT  
I'D FIND THE BIRD  
WHEN I ENTERED  
THE CAPITAL!

BUT I CAN'T  
LOCATE THE  
BLASTED THING  
ANYWHERE!

NO! YOU'RE  
LYING!

HOW CAN A BIRD  
THAT KIYOMORI  
PAID A FORTUNE  
FOR TO SOME  
CHINESE TRADERS  
JUST BE AN  
ORDINARY  
BIRD?!

AH, BUT WHY  
DOES A FAMOUS  
WARRIOR LIKE  
YOU EVEN WANT  
THE FIREBIRD'S  
BLOOD? SURELY,  
YOU'RE NOT  
AFRAID OF  
DYING, ARE  
YOU?

HAH!!

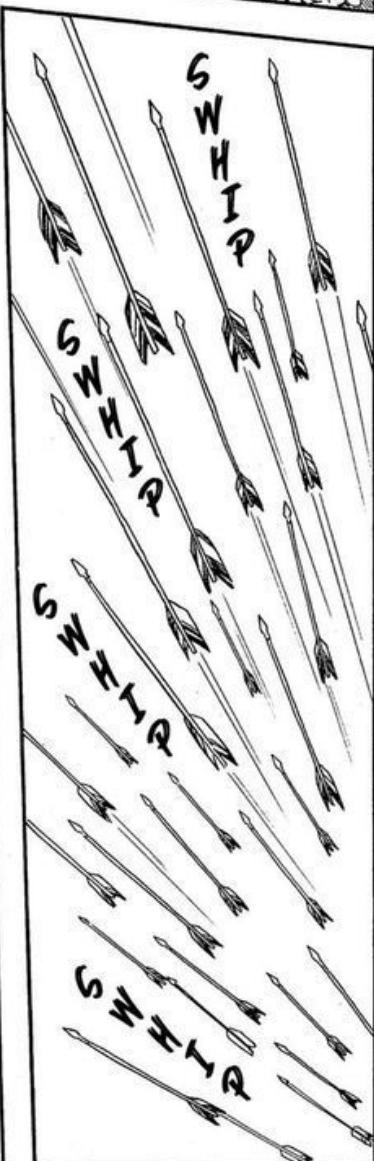


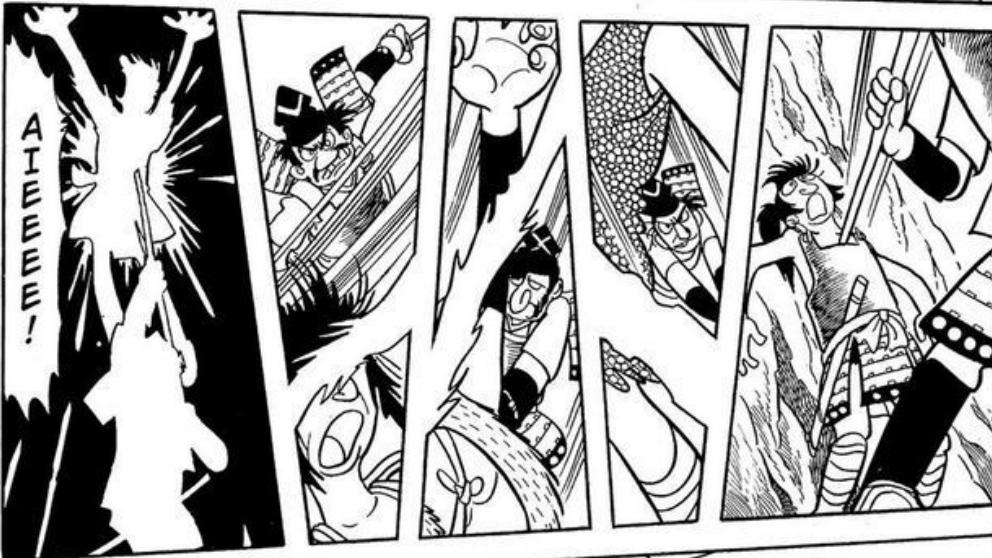






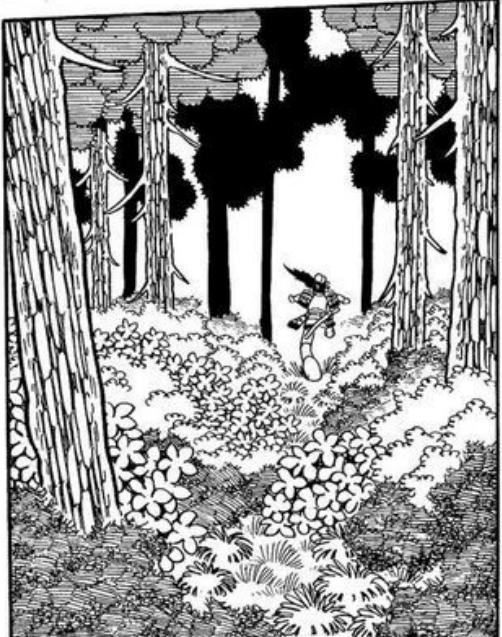
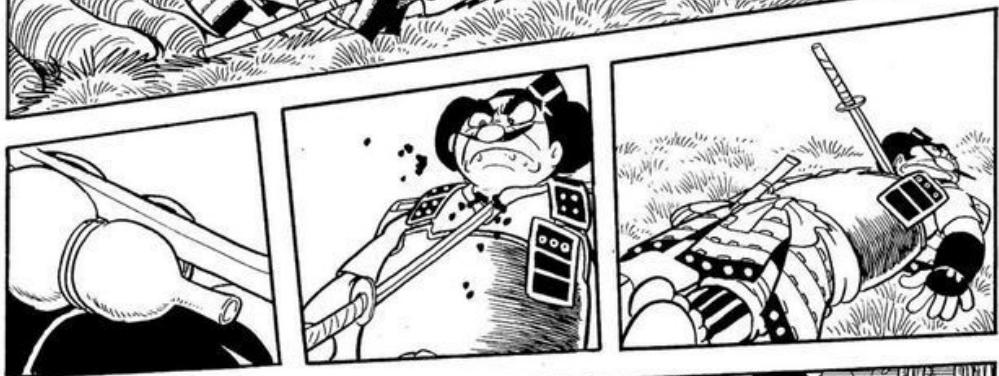
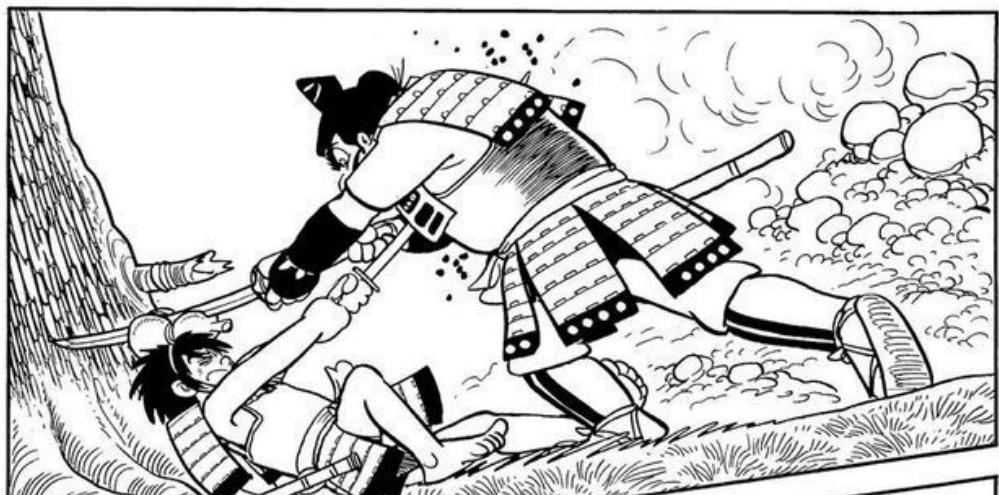


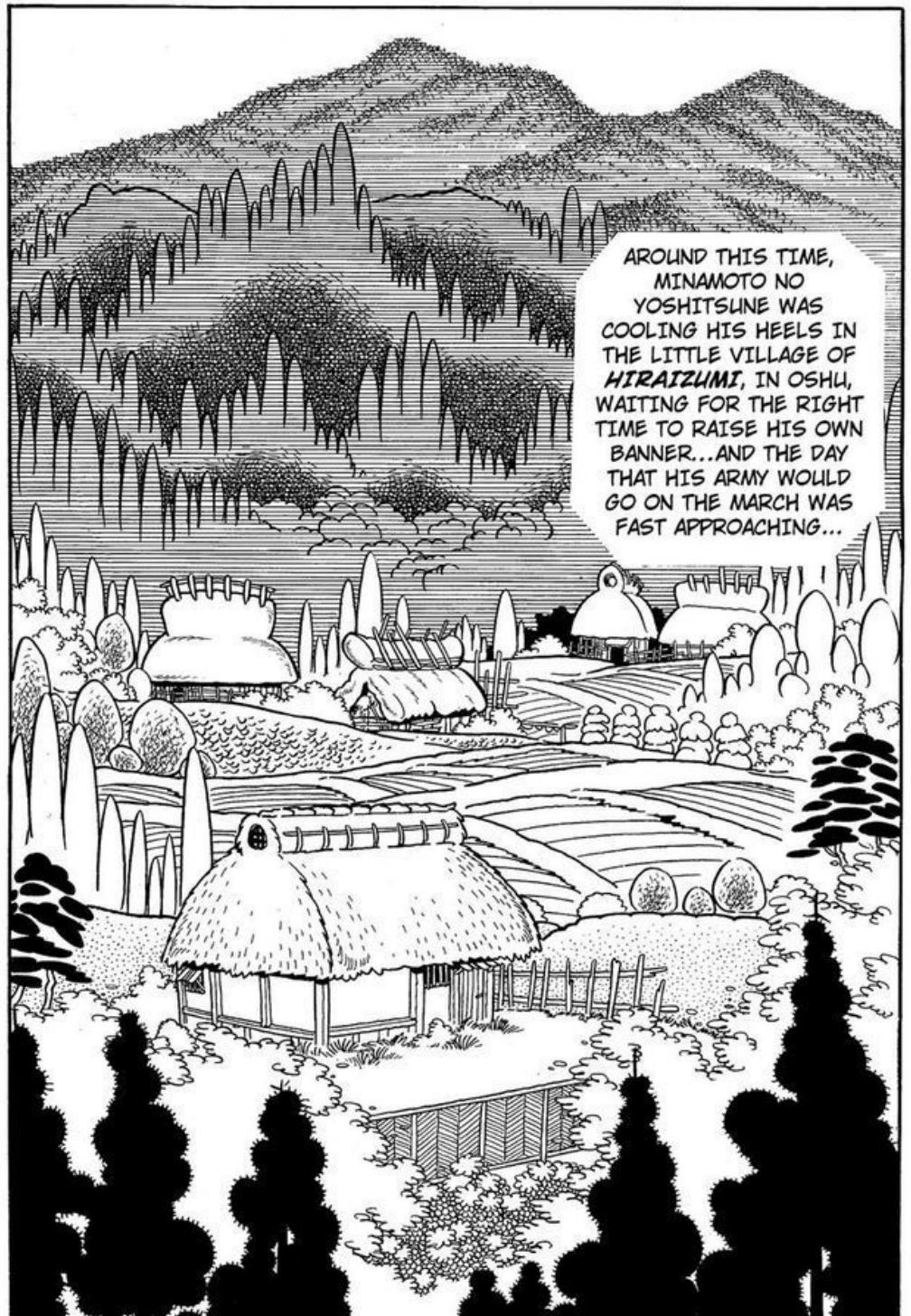




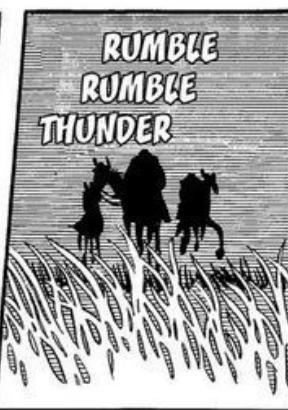
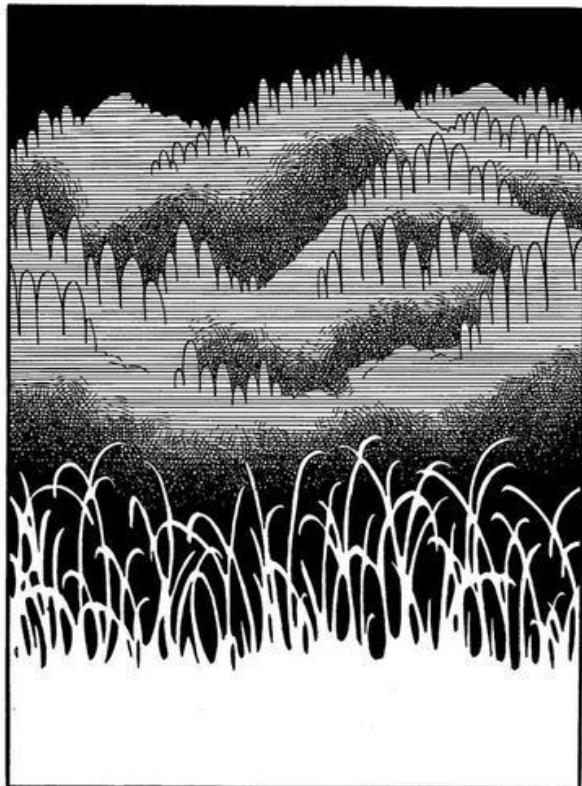






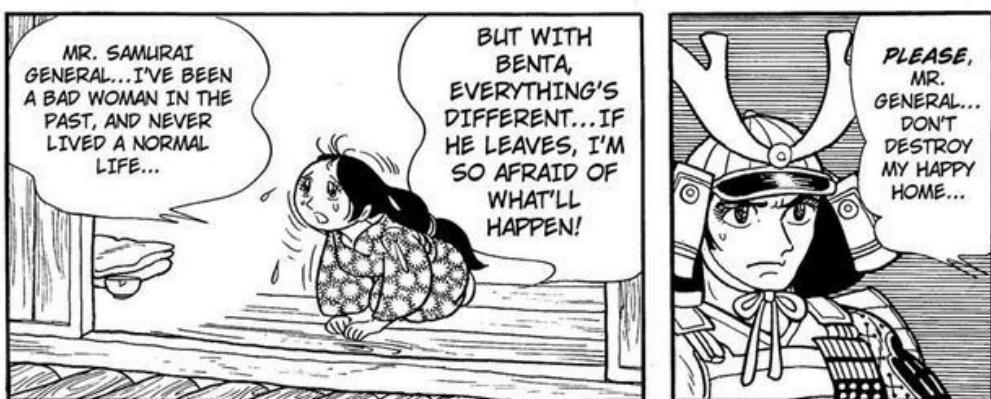


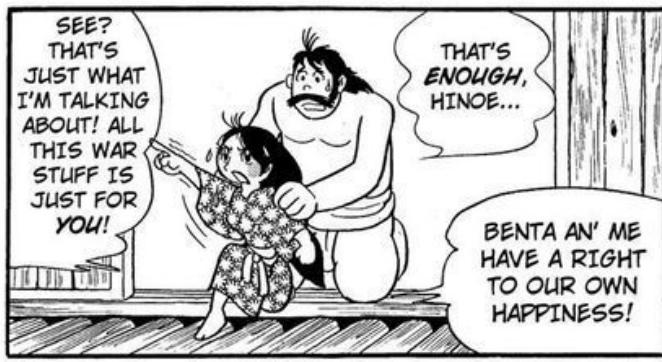
AROUND THIS TIME,  
MINAMOTO NO  
YOSHITSUNE WAS  
COOLING HIS HEELS IN  
THE LITTLE VILLAGE OF  
HIRAIKUMI, IN OSHU,  
WAITING FOR THE RIGHT  
TIME TO RAISE HIS OWN  
BANNER...AND THE DAY  
THAT HIS ARMY WOULD  
GO ON THE MARCH WAS  
FAST APPROACHING...





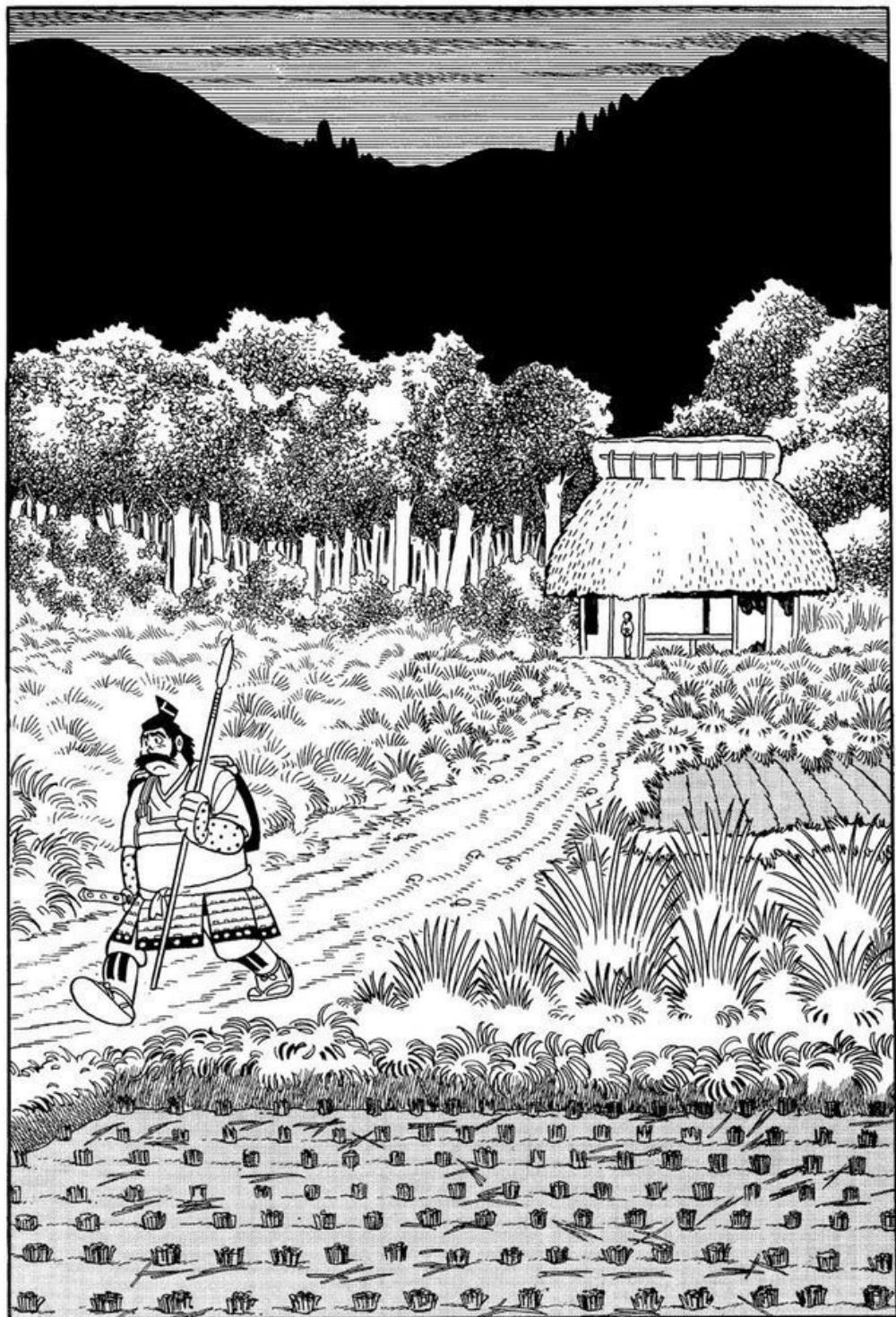




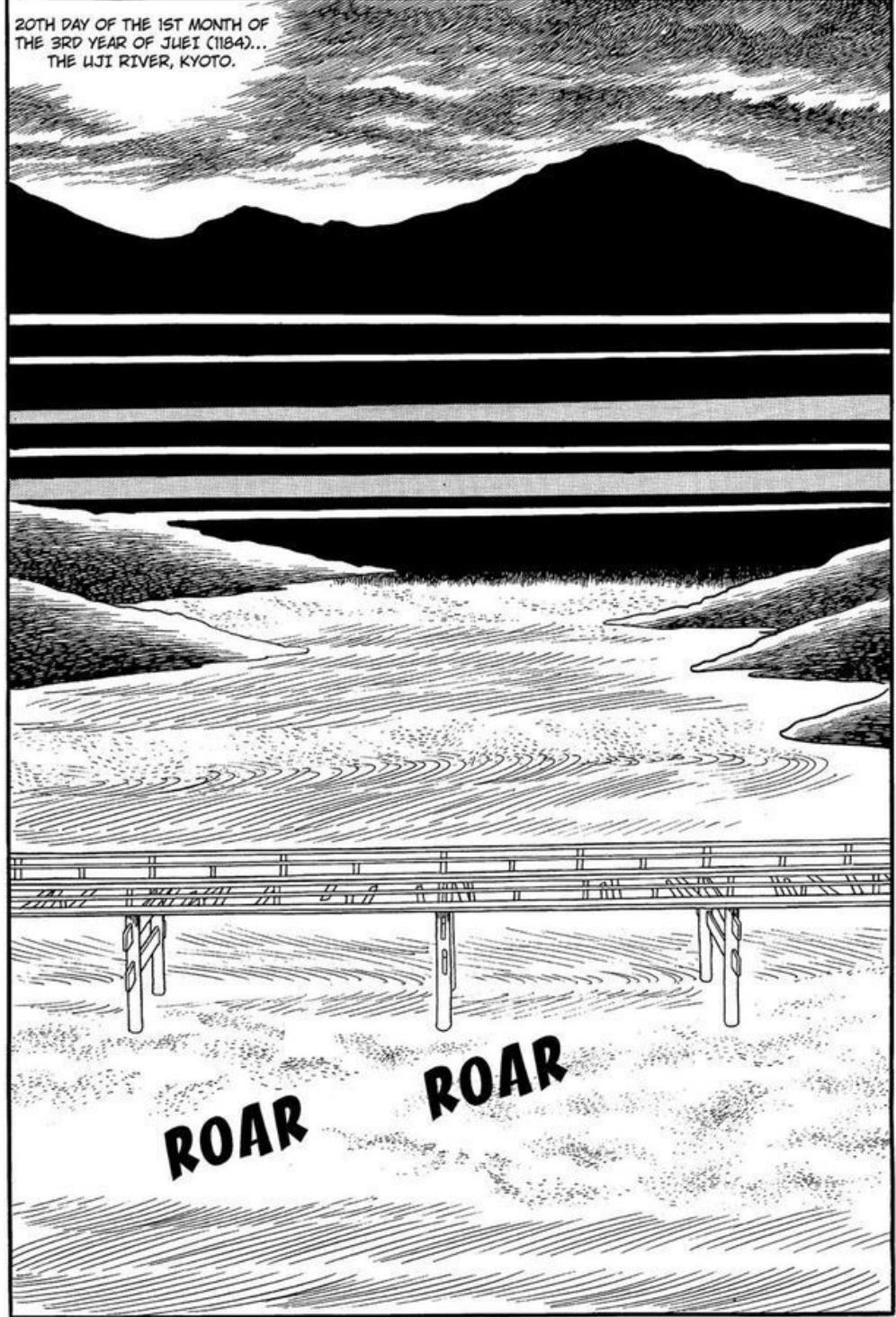




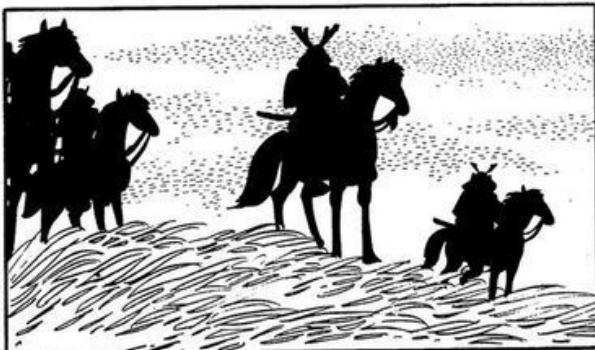
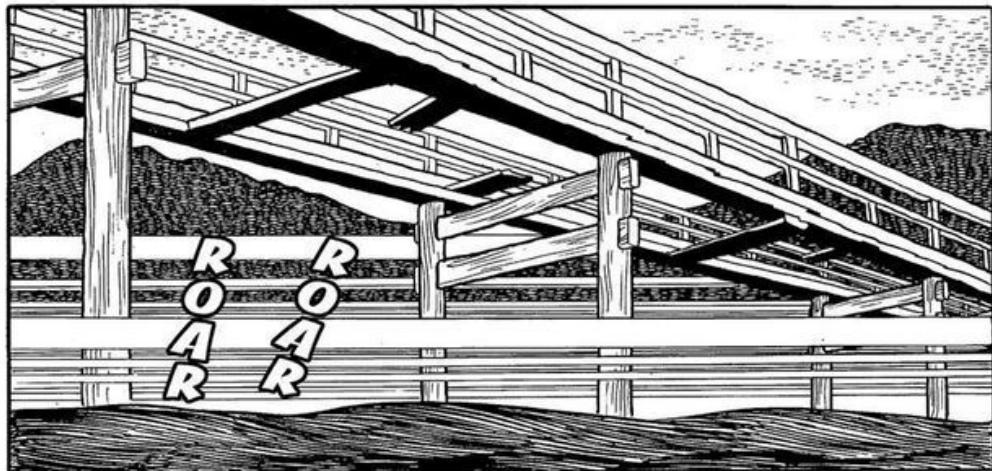




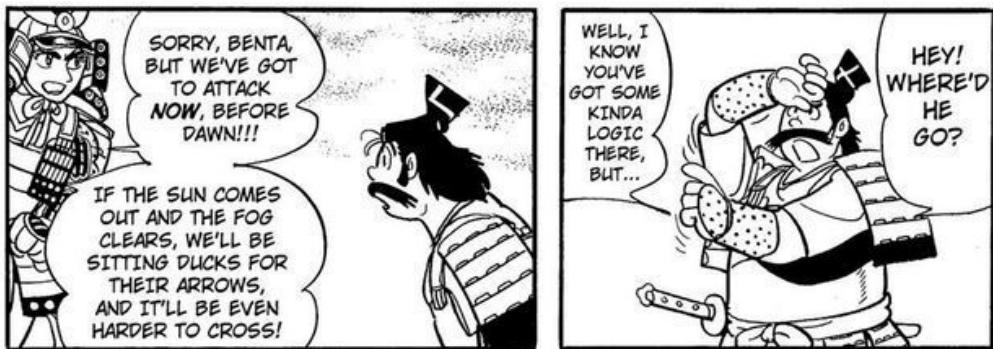
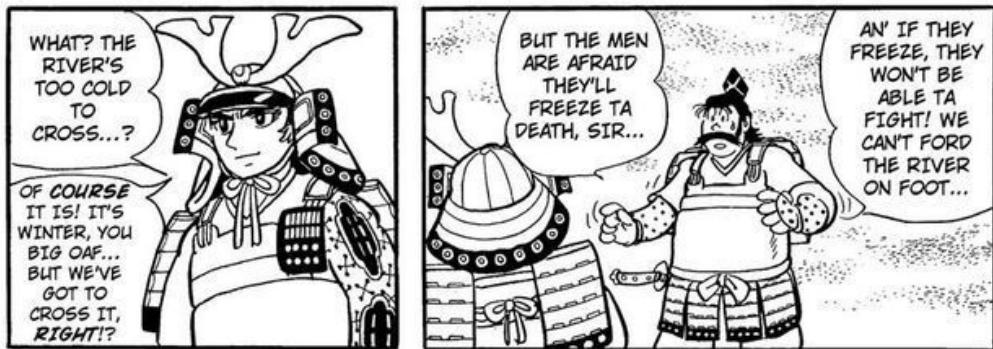
20TH DAY OF THE 1ST MONTH OF  
THE 3RD YEAR OF JUEI (1184)...  
THE UJI RIVER, KYOTO.



ROAR ROAR







ROAR...

ROAR...

ROAR...



WAIT A  
MINUTE!  
I KNOW!  
WE CAN  
BUILD A  
REALLY BIG  
RAFT!

WITH A  
RAFT, I  
COULD TAKE  
SOLDIERS  
OVER TO  
THE OTHER  
SIDE!

AND IN  
THIS FOG,  
I COULD  
GET 'EM  
OVER THERE  
BEFORE  
THE ENEMY  
EVEN  
NOTICES!

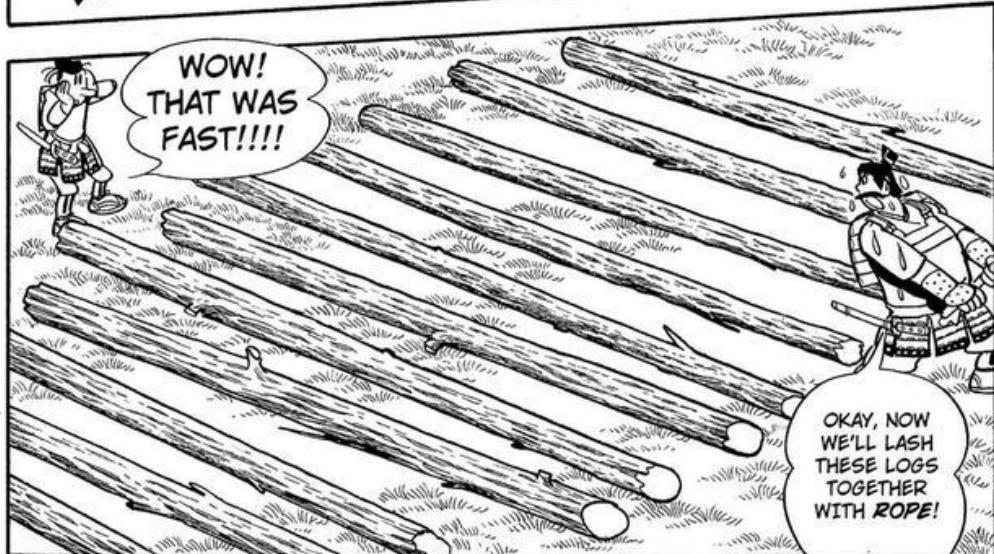
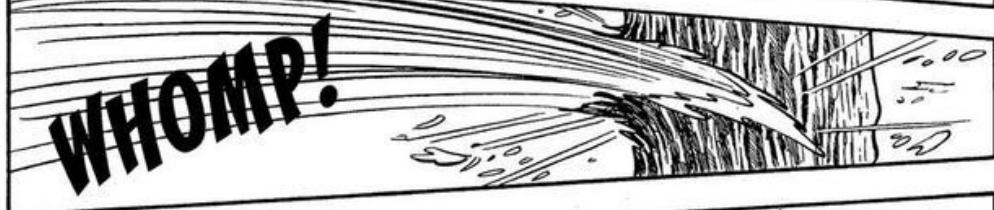
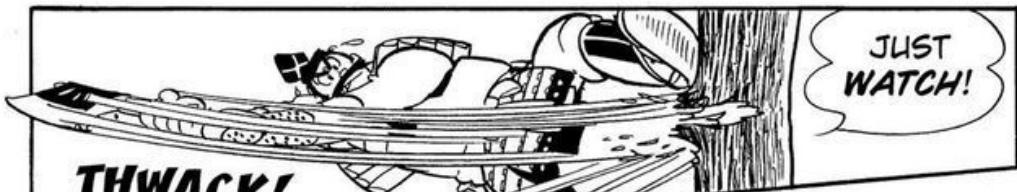
HEY, FUJI,  
TAKA AN'  
NASUBI!

GO BORROW AN  
AXE FROM ONE OF  
THOSE FARMERS  
NEARBY!

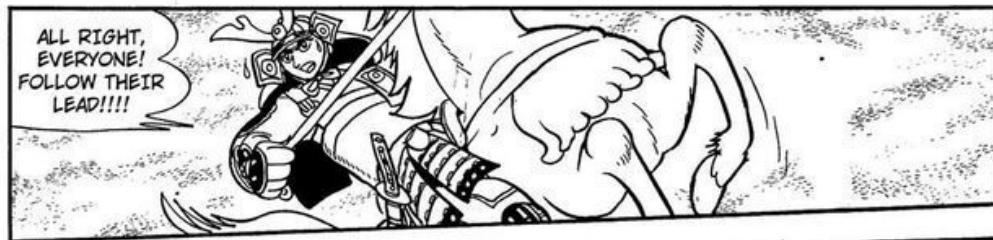
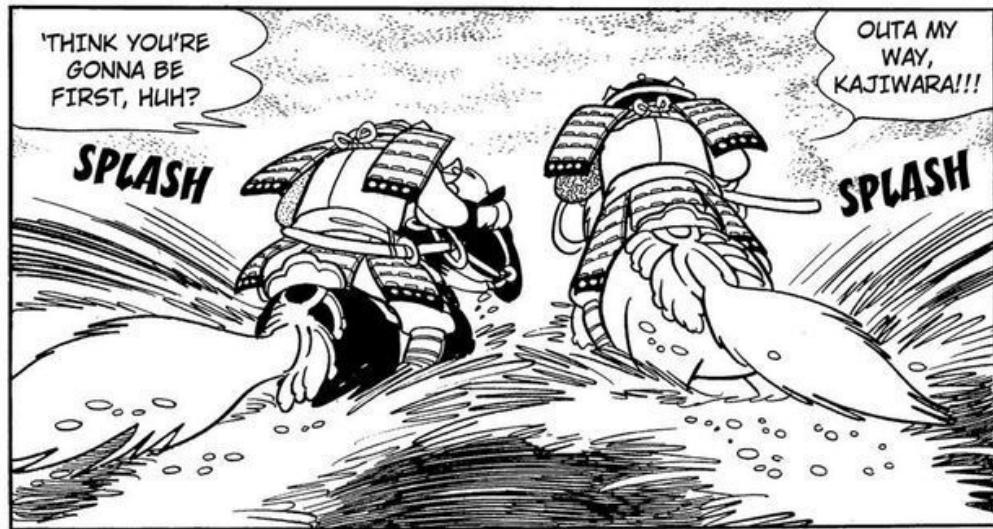
I'LL  
SHOW 'EM  
WHAT A  
REAL  
WOOD-  
CUTTER  
CAN DO!

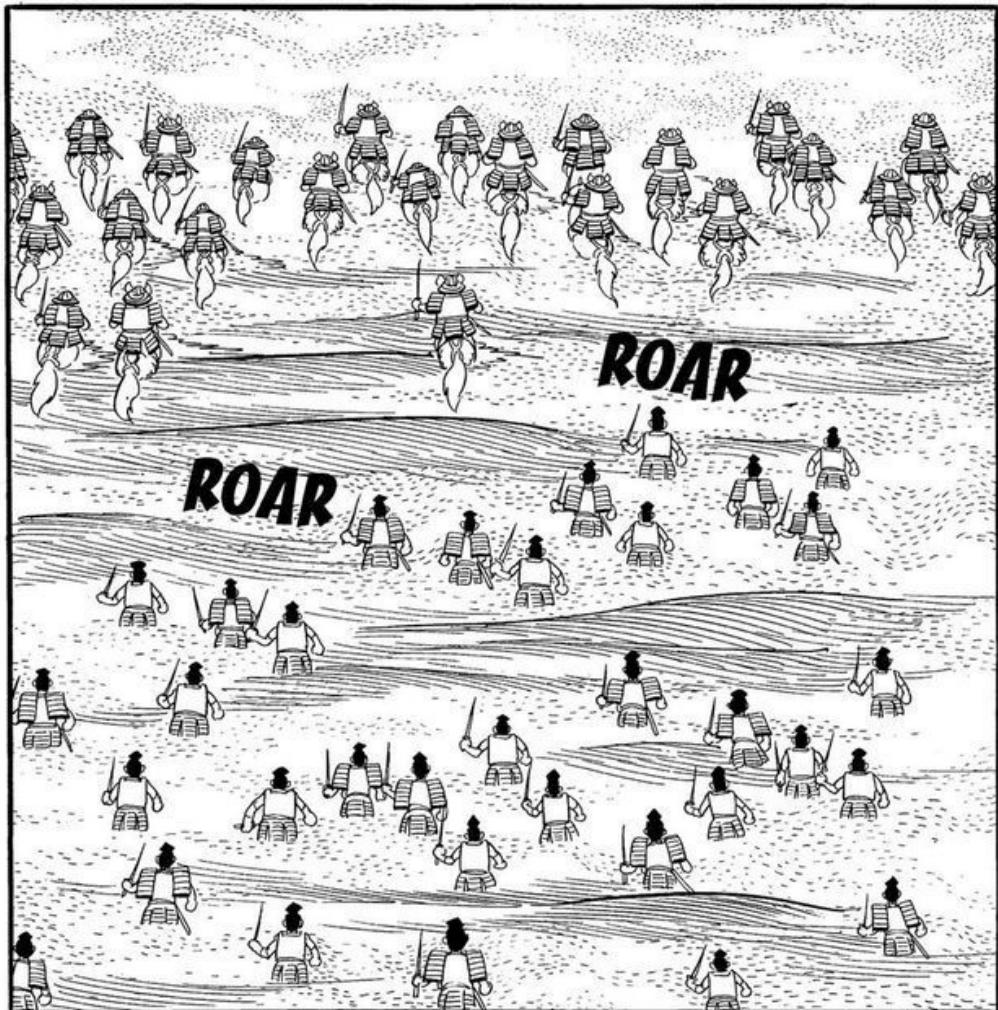
SPIT SPIT

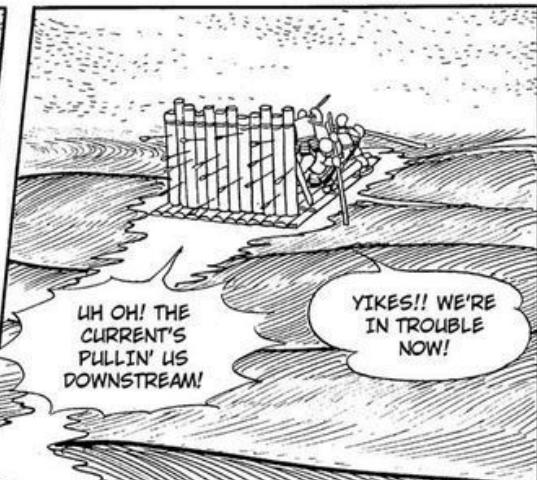
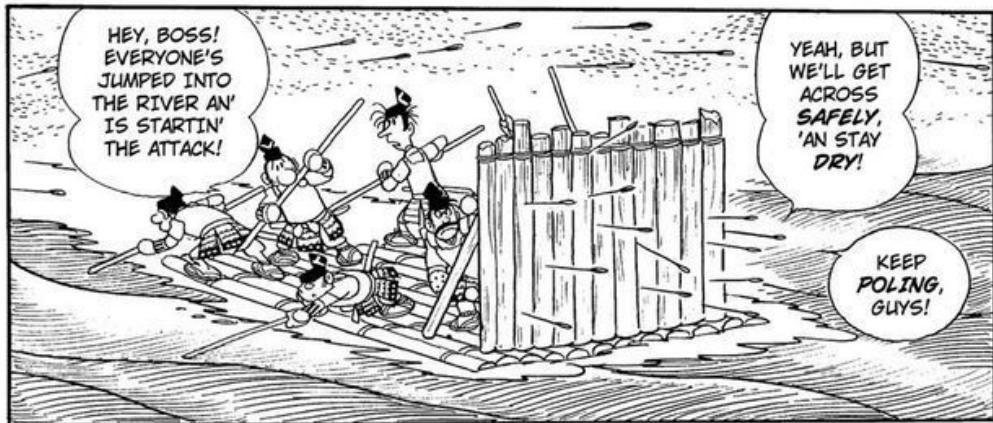


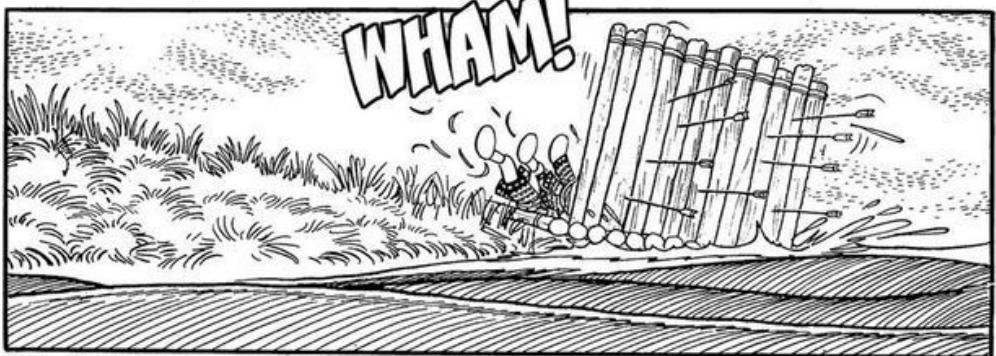
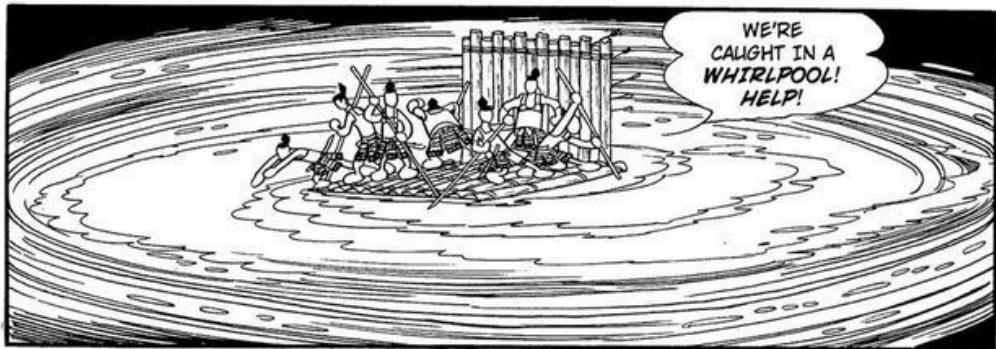


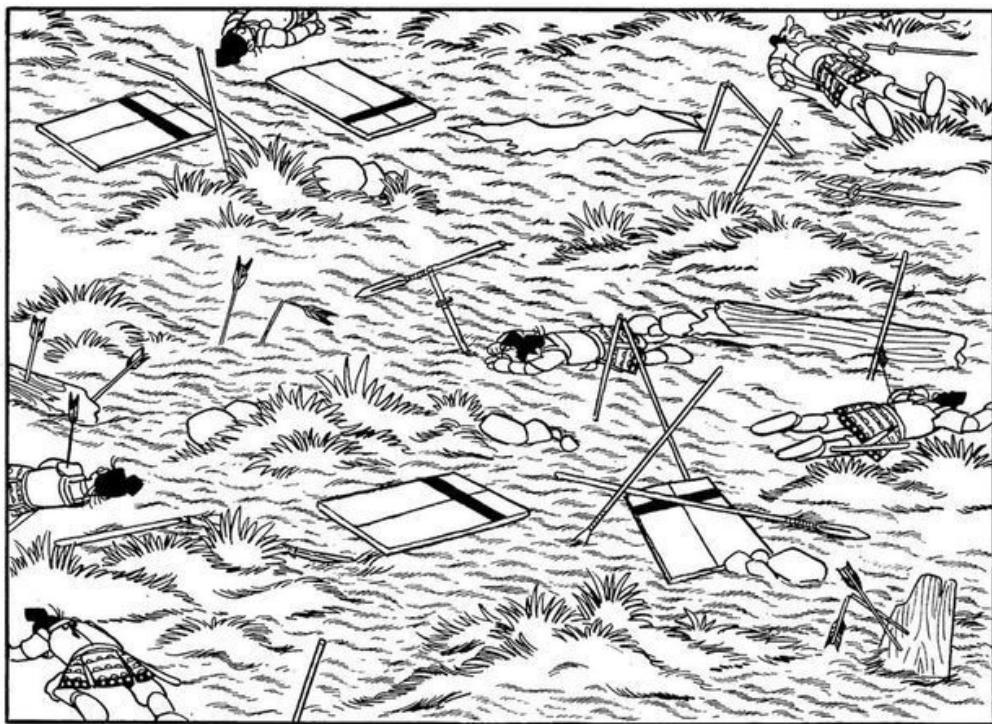










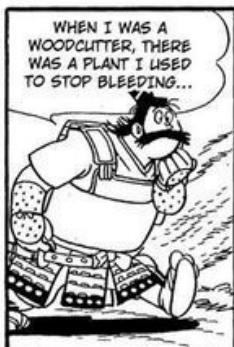












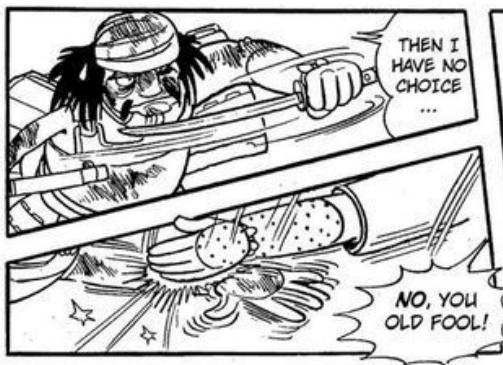
WELL, I'M, ER, GENERAL IIMORI BENTA YAMAIMO...

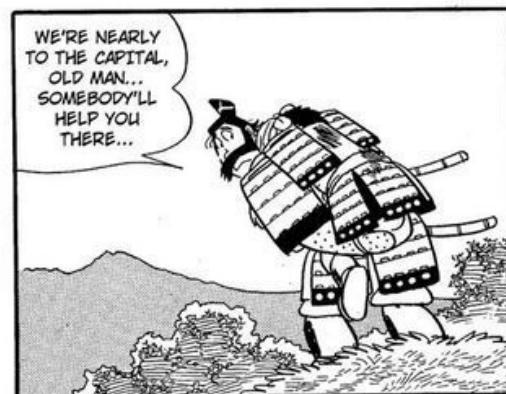


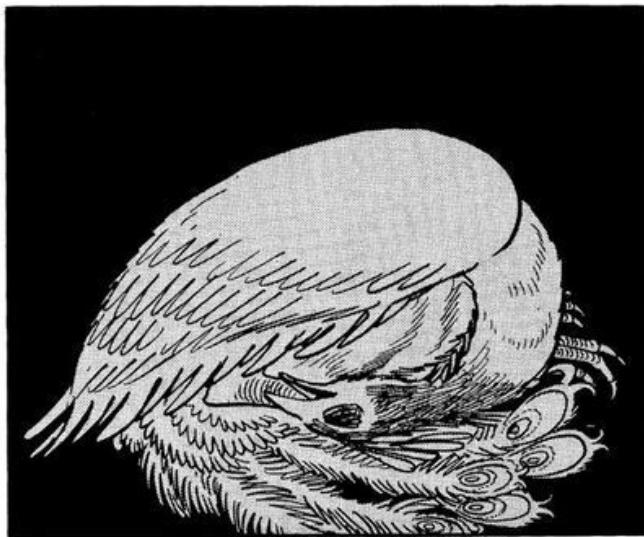
PAPA...? YOU MEAN YOUR... FATHER...?



YEAH...HE WAS MURDERED, AND HIS BODY BURNED, BY TAIRA SAMURAI...









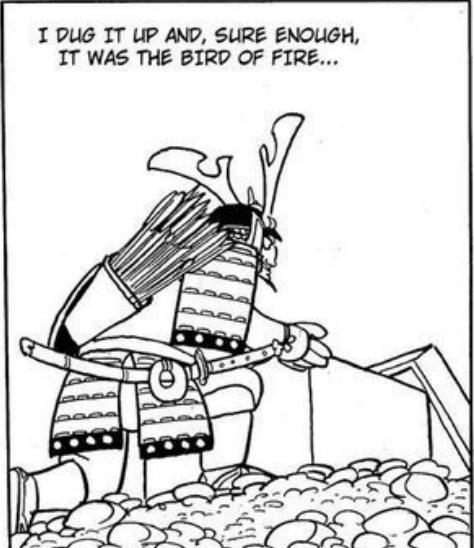


KIYOMORI, OF THE TAIRA CLAN, HAD THE BIRD BROUGHT OVER FROM CHINA, BUT IT WAS SOON LOST FOR A LONG TIME...

THEN, ONE DAY, WHEN I WAS PASSING BY THE CHOGO SONSHI TEMPLE ON MT. KAWACHISHIGI, I NOTICED A GRAVESTONE FOR A BIRD, OF ALL THINGS...



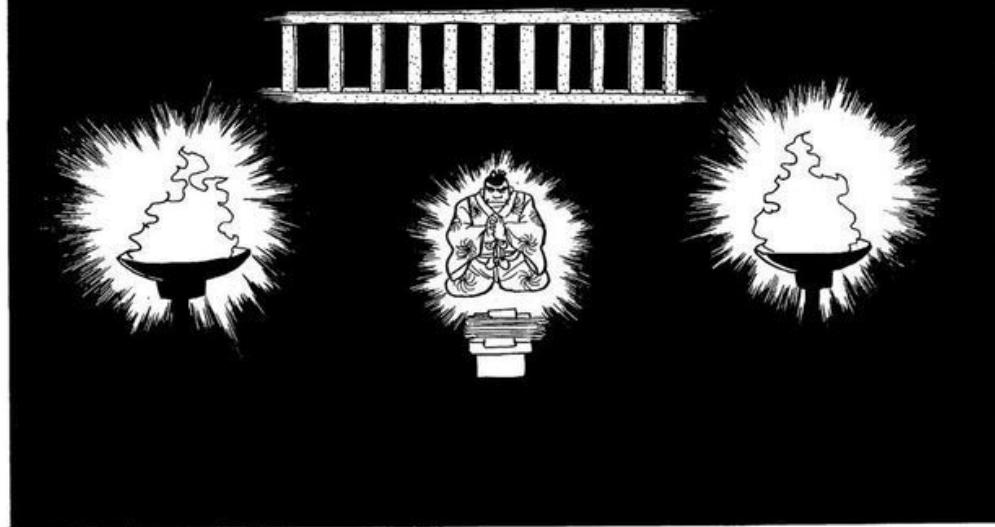
I ASKED THE TEMPLE'S ABBOT ABOUT IT, AND LO AND BEHOLD, SOON HIGH PRIEST MYOUN OF THE TENDAI SECT APPEARED. HE TOLD ME THAT HE THOUGHT A BIRD HAD BEEN BURIED THERE, AND THAT A SERVICE HAD BEEN HELD FOR ITS SOUL...

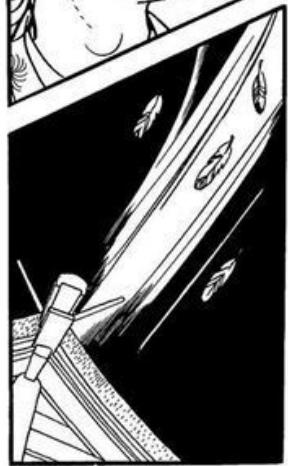


I DUG IT UP AND, SURE ENOUGH, IT WAS THE BIRD OF FIRE...



THERE'S EVEN MORE... WHILE HE WAS STILL IN SUWA, YOSHINAKA MADE A PILGRIMAGE TO THE FAMOUS SUWA SHRINE, AND SPENT SEVERAL DAYS PRAYING FOR SUCCESS IN BATTLE. THEN, ON THE LAST DAY, THE GODS FINALLY SPOKE TO HIM...





ACK! MY WHOLE CLAN DESTROYED?!  
NO SURVIVING DESCENDANTS AT ALL? CAN THAT REALLY BE MY FATE?

B...BUT WHAT DID THE BIRD SYMBOLIZE?

NOW... LET'S SEE... A LARGE MOUNTAIN BIRD...

WHEN I WAS LIVING IN THE CAPITAL, I RECALL HEARING ABOUT A BIRD WHOSE BLOOD HELD THE SECRET TO ETERNAL LIFE...

IT WAS CALLED THE BIRD OF FIRE, OR FIREBIRD...

...I'M SURE IT WAS THE SAME BIRD THEY SAY KIYOMORI WAS KEEPING...

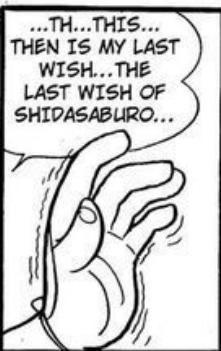
SO IT'S PROBABLY A SIGN... MEANING THAT IF YOU CAN FIND THE FIREBIRD, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SAVE YOUR FAMILY...

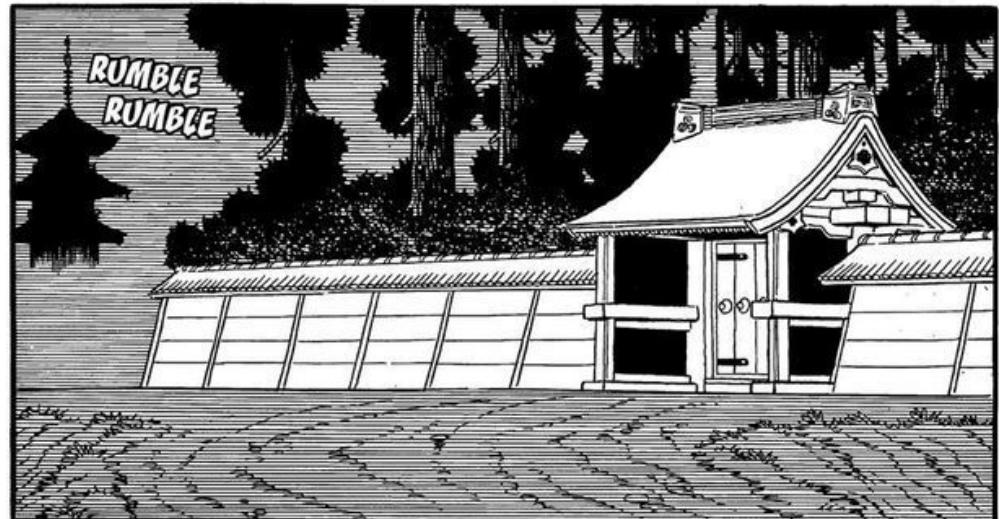
I'M HEADING FOR THE CAPITAL RIGHT AWAY...

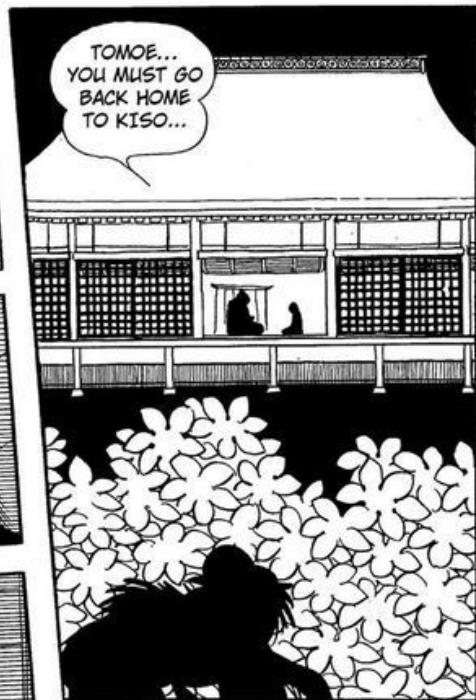
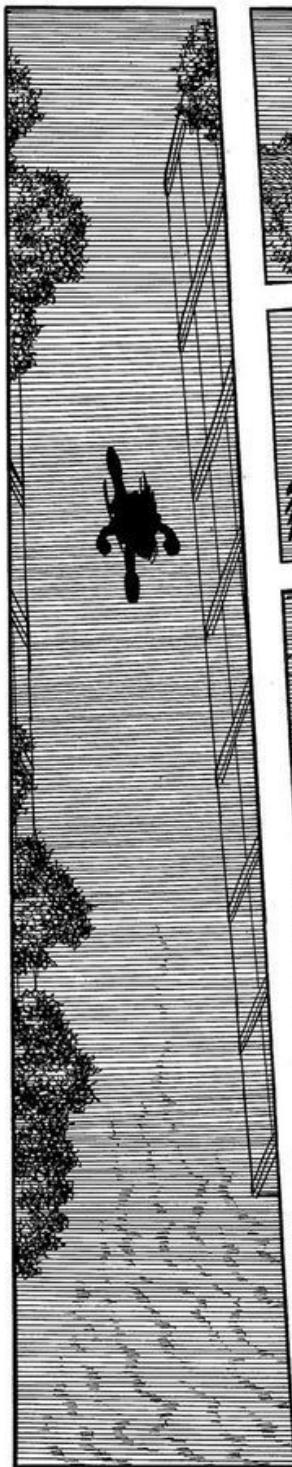
AND I'LL FIND THE BIRD!

I'M NOT AFRAID OF DYING...

BUT I'LL NEVER LET MY CLAN DIE OUT!







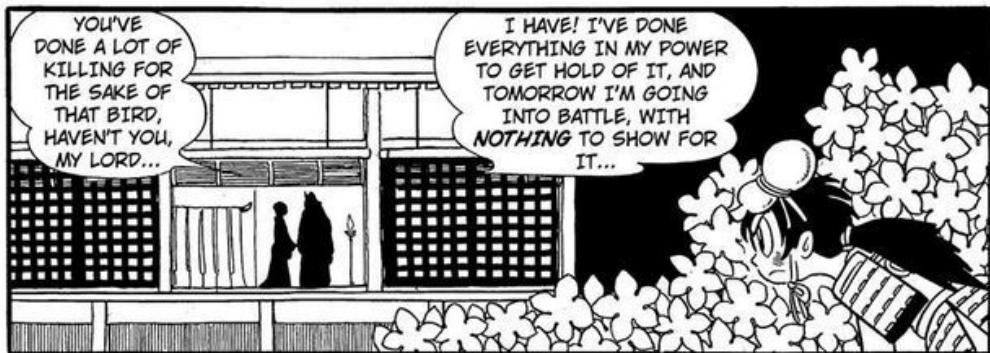
TOMOE...  
YOU MUST GO  
BACK HOME  
TO KISO...

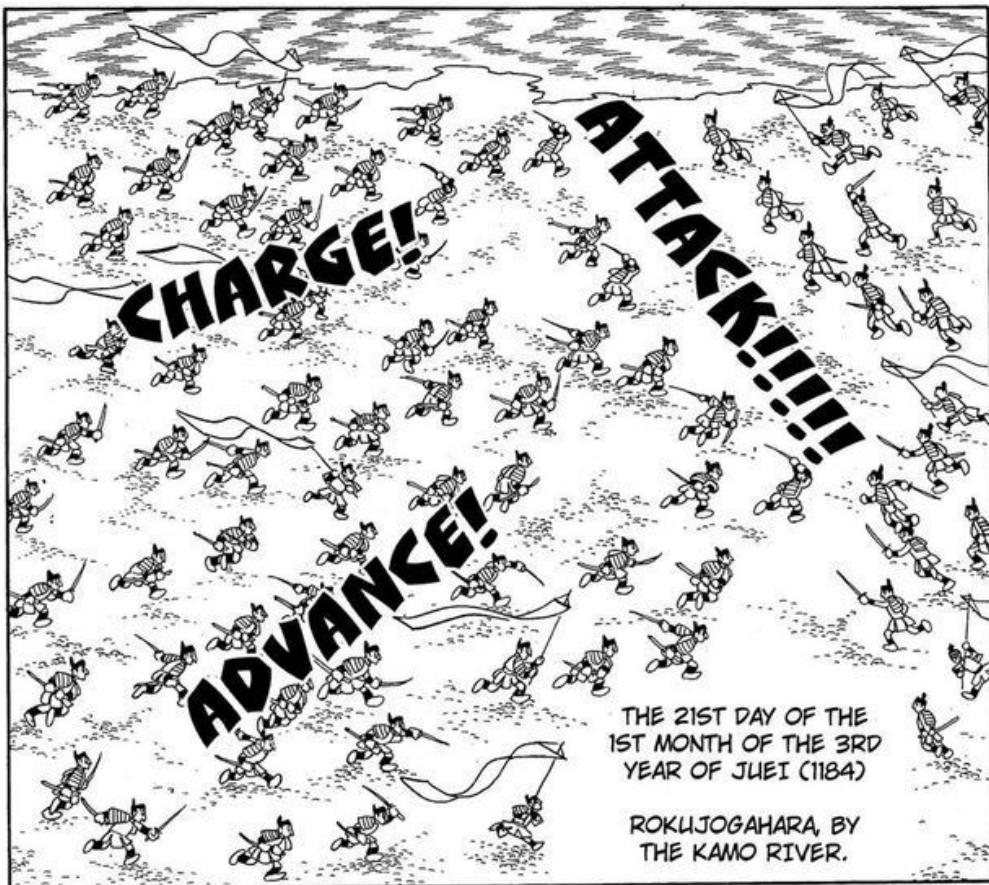
YOU'RE A  
WOMAN AND TOO  
VALUABLE TO  
REMAIN HERE.  
YOU MUST  
RETURN TO  
OUR HOMELAND,  
TO KISO.

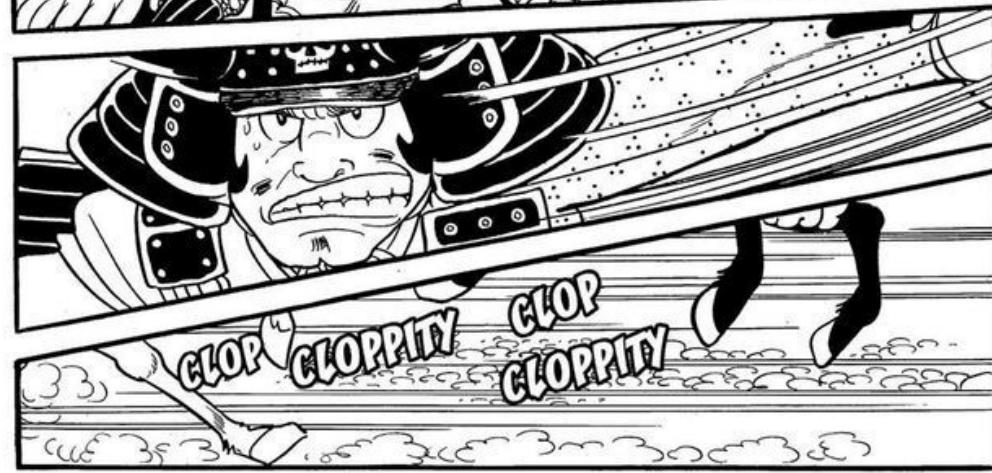
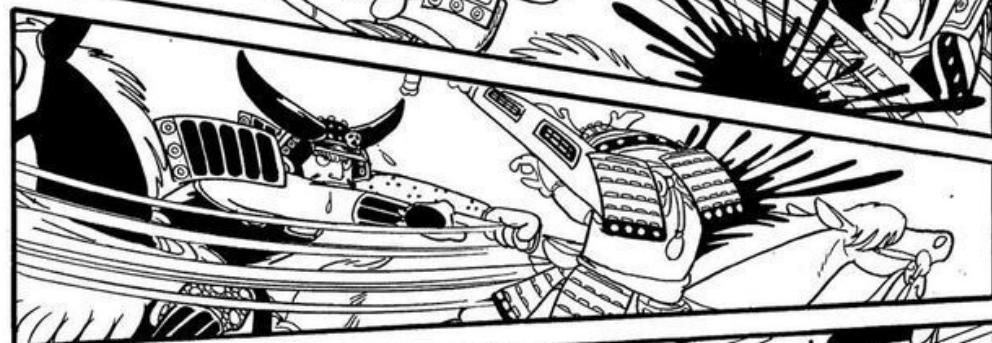
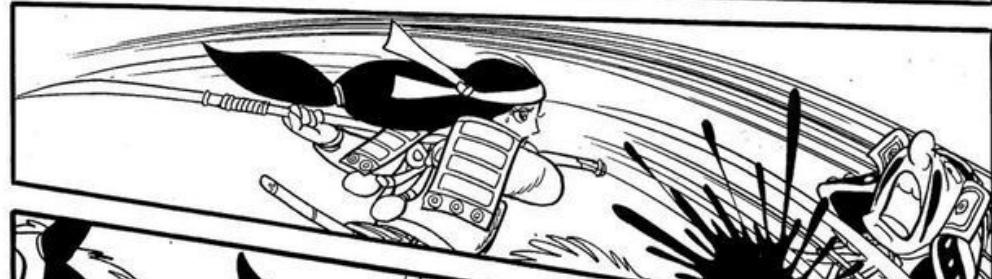


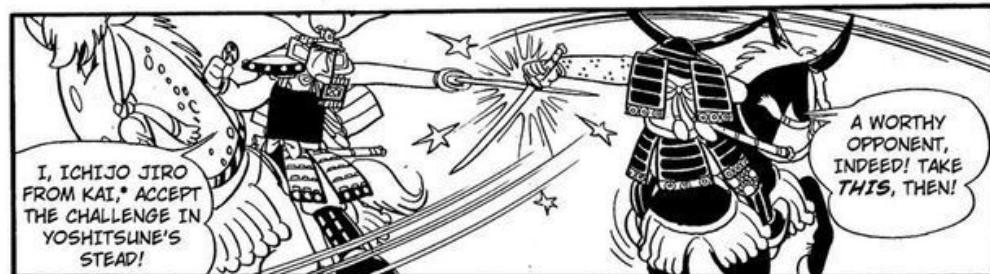
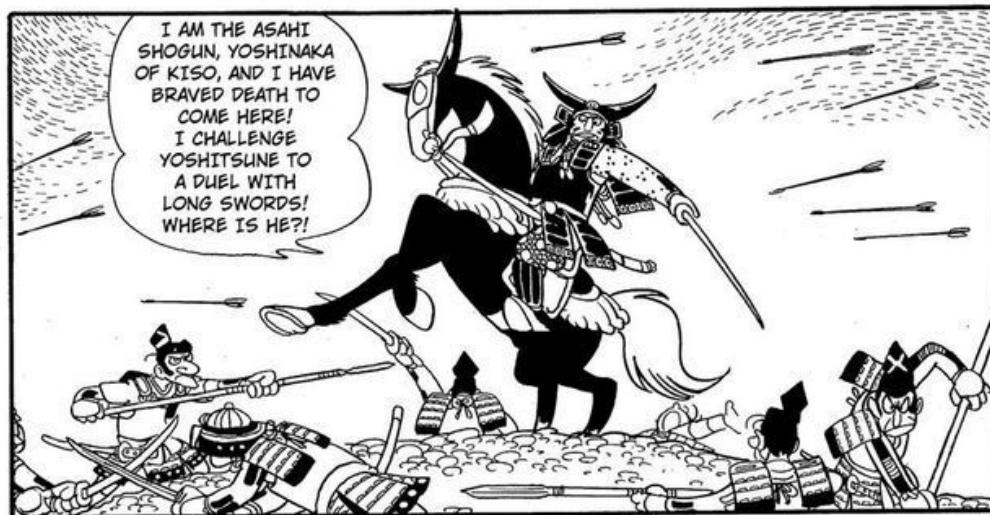




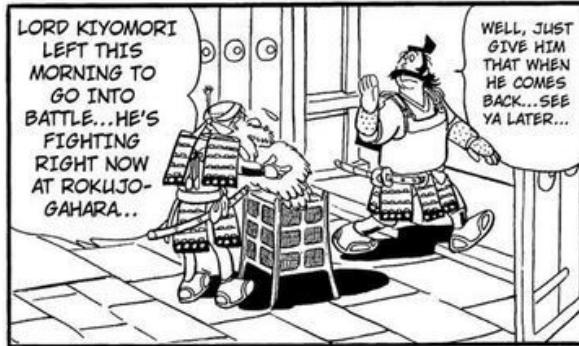
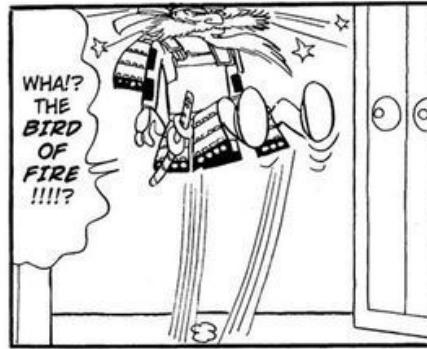
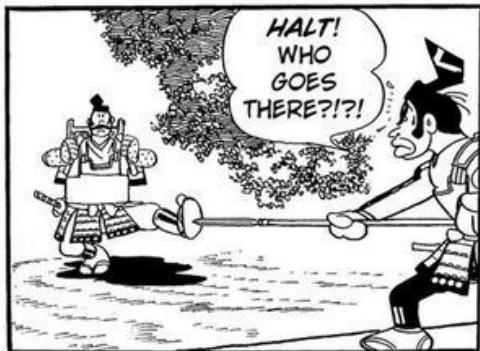








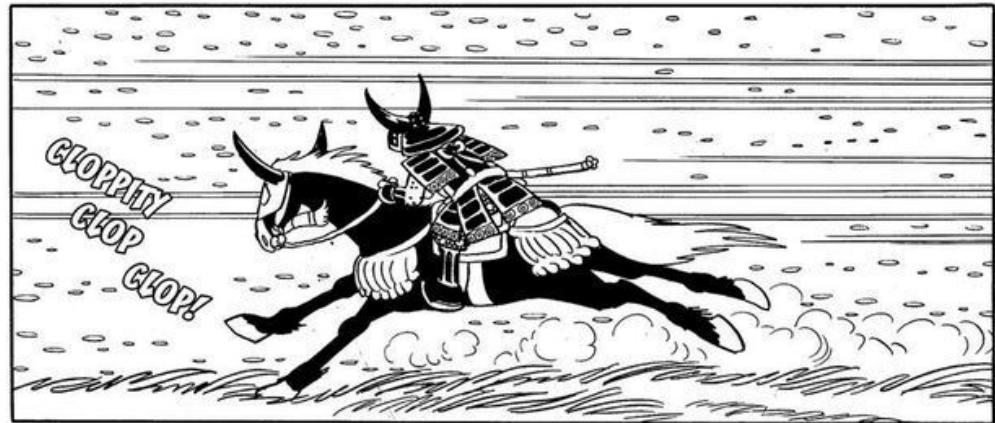
\* NOTE: PRESENT-DAY YAMANASHI PREFECTURE



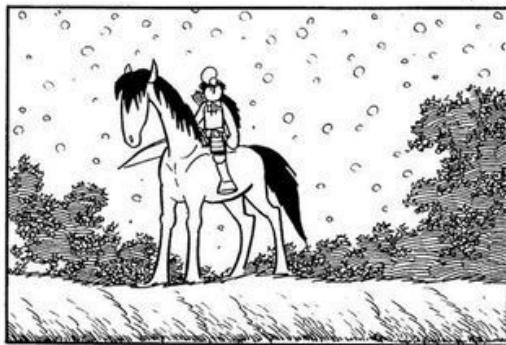


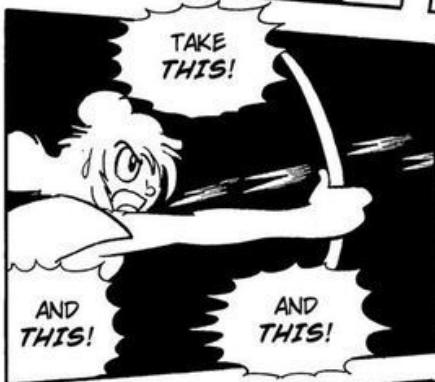




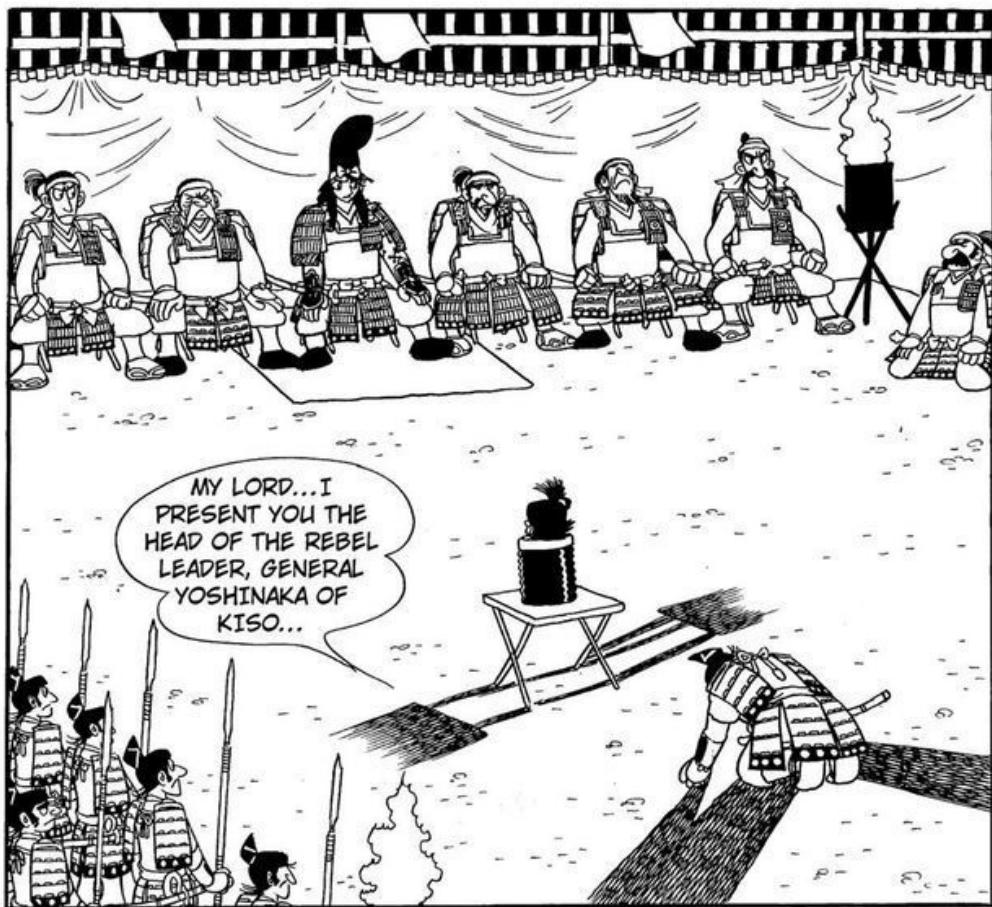






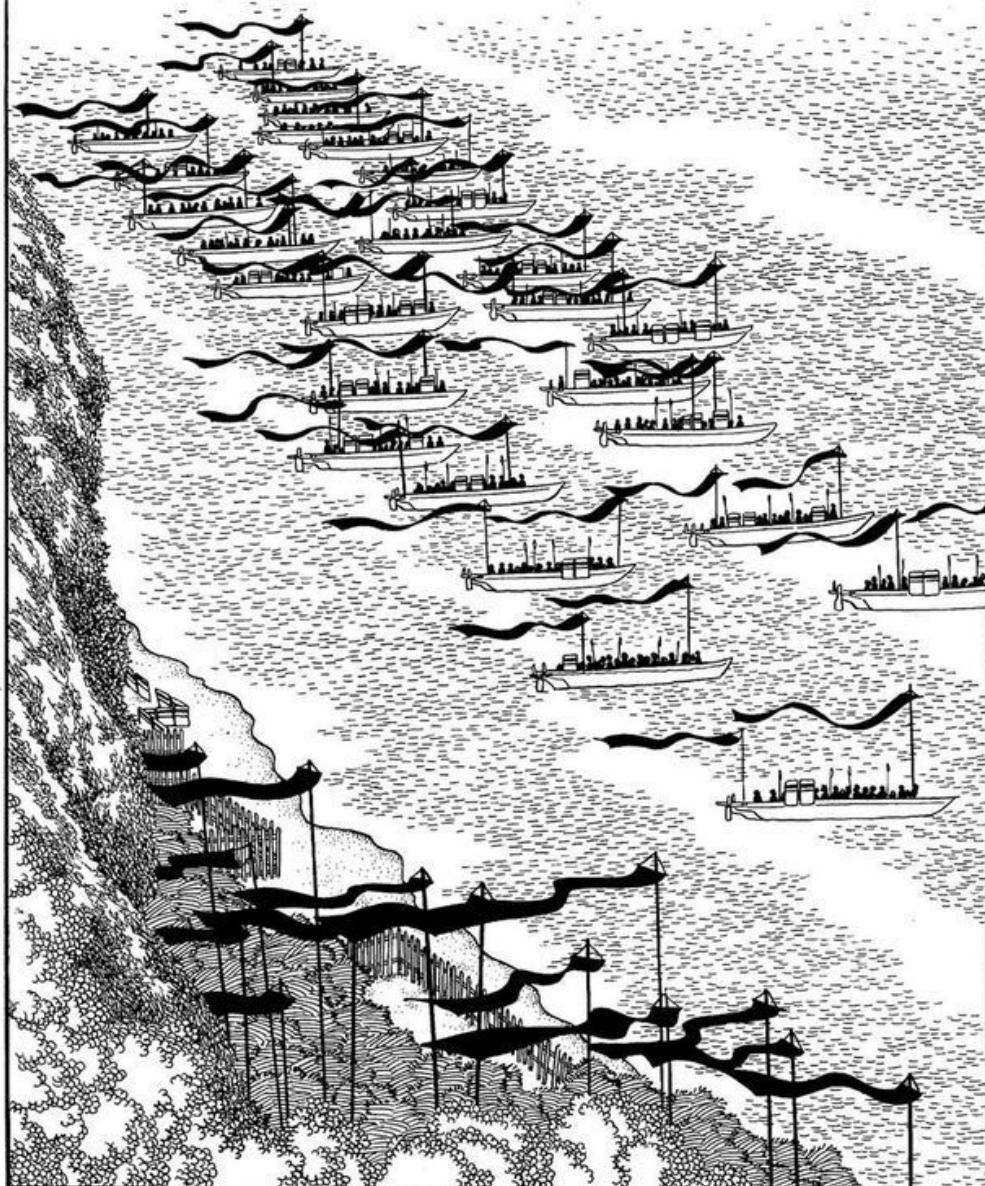


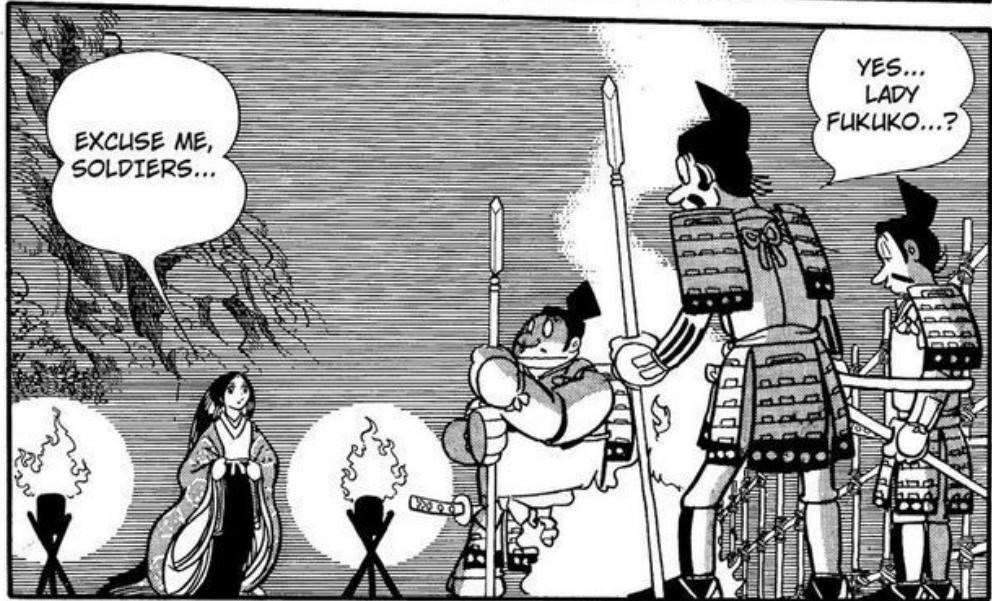
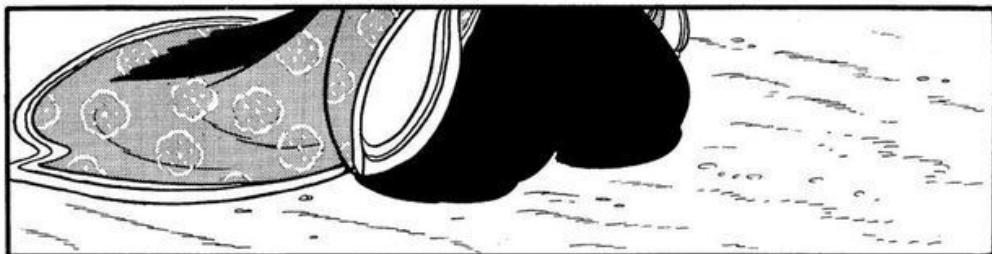




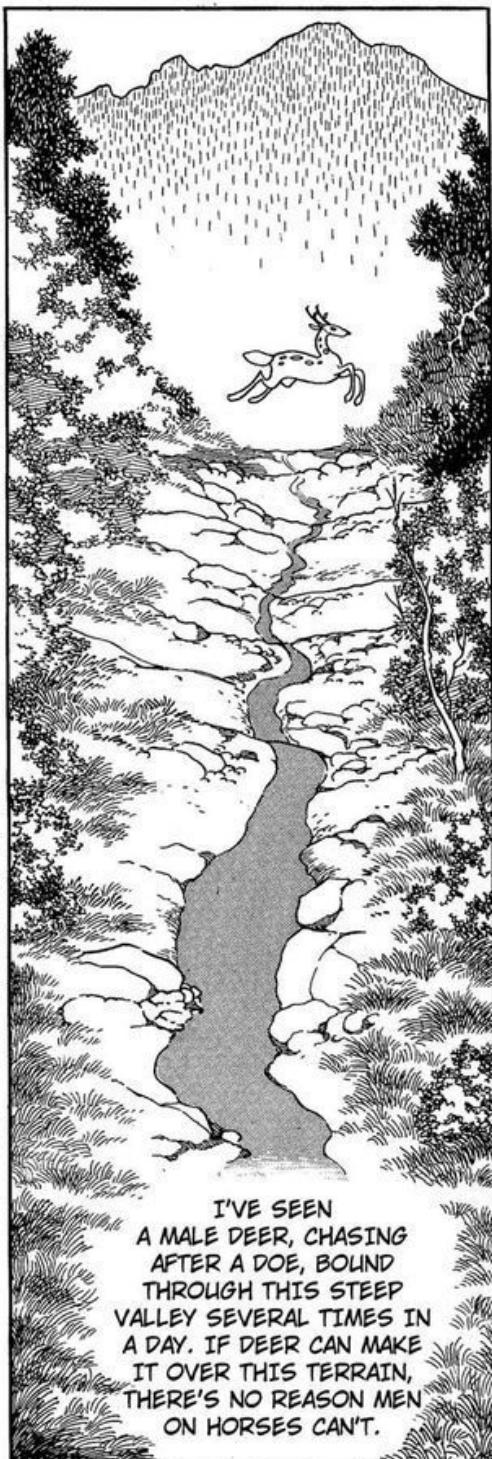


THE TAIRA ASSEMBLED LINE AFTER LINE OF TROOPS ON THE SHORE OF THE RECENTLY ABANDONED CAPITAL OF FUKUHARA, IN HYOGO PROVINCE. AND THEY DEPLOYED SO MANY BOATS THAT IT RESEMBLED A LAYER OF FOG UPON THE SEA. AND THERE THEY WAITED... FOR YOSHITSUNE'S FORCES TO ATTACK....











HOW CAN YOU BE  
RELAXING LIKE  
THIS WHEN THE  
TAIRA FORCES ARE  
ALMOST AT OUR  
DOOR!!?!

WELL, ER, UM...I JUST  
THOUGHT I'D, ER, SAY GOOD-  
BYE TO THE WIFEY HERE,  
KNOWING THAT THE FINAL  
BATTLE'S AT HAND...

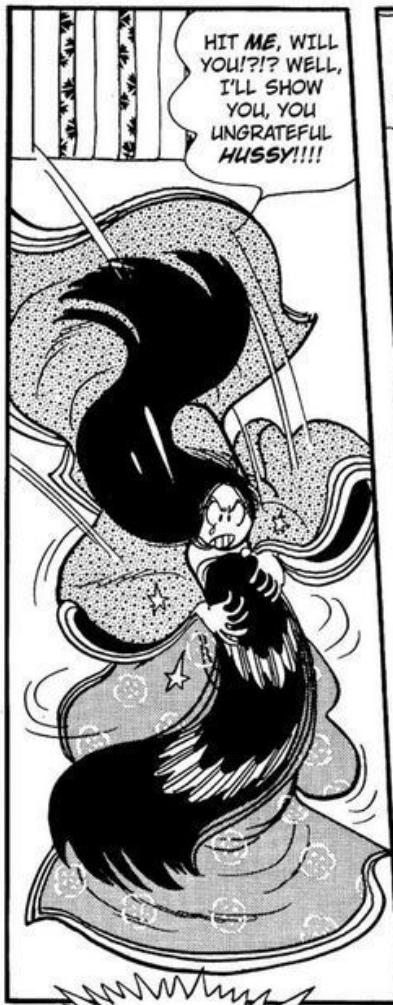
WHERE'S YOUR  
FIGHTING SPIRIT, MY  
LORD?!?! WITH ALL DUE  
RESPECT, YOU REALLY  
SHOULD PUT YOUR  
ARMOR ON NOW!!

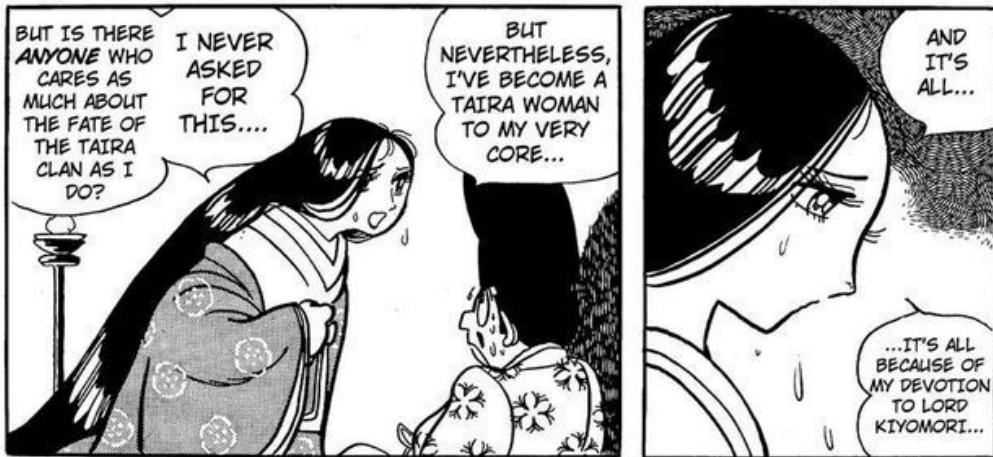
HOW DARE  
YOU PUT ON  
AIRS AND  
SPEAK TO US  
IN THAT  
TONE!!!!

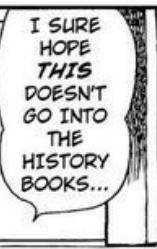
JUST WHO DO  
YOU THINK IS  
RESPONSIBLE FOR  
INTRODUCING  
YOU TO LORD  
KIYOMORI...EH?  
REMEMBER,  
YOU'RE NOTHING  
MORE THAN A  
COMMONER!!!!

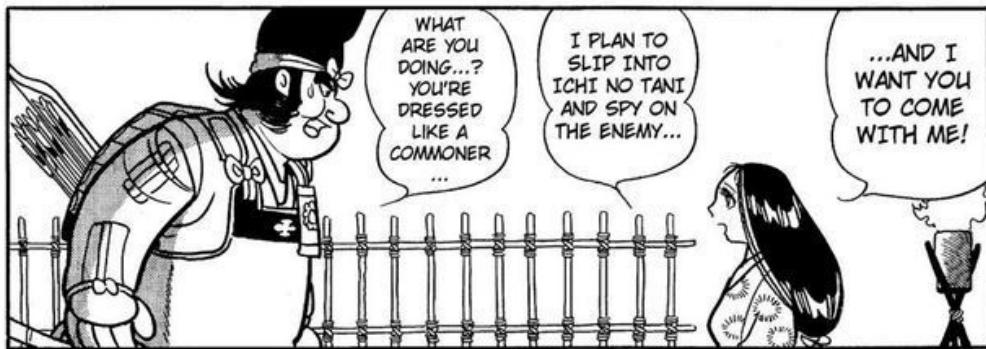
GET OUT OF  
MY ROOM,  
YOU LITTLE  
UPSTART!!!!  
GET OUT!!!!

WHAP!!!











BUT THEN ONE DAY,  
WHEN I WAS  
ACCOMPANYING LORD  
KIYOMORI ON AN  
EXPEDITION OUTSIDE  
THE CAPITAL,  
MINAMOTO NO  
YOSHITOMO STARTED  
A REBELLION.  
MY HOUSE HAD THE  
BAD LUCK TO BE  
BURNED DOWN...

MY WIFE WAS  
KILLED BY A  
COMMON FOOT  
SOLDIER, WHO  
DIDN'T THINK  
TWICE ABOUT  
WHAT HE WAS  
DOING...



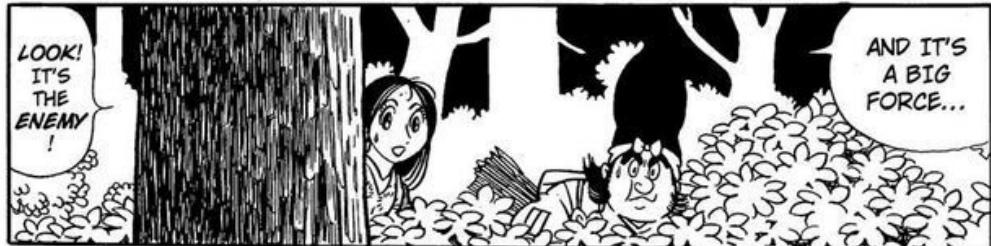
I BURIED MY WIFE'S  
BODY AFTER I  
RETURNED TO  
THE CAPITAL...

...BUT I  
NEVER DID  
FIND OUT  
WHAT  
HAPPENED  
TO THE  
BABY THAT  
HAD JUST  
BEEN BORN  
TO US...

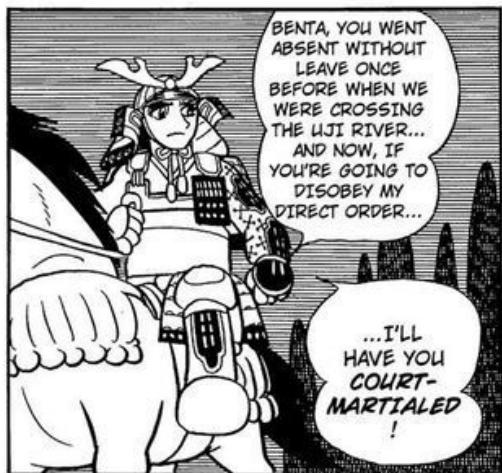
OF COURSE,  
THIS ALL  
HAPPENED  
OVER  
TWENTY  
YEARS AGO...

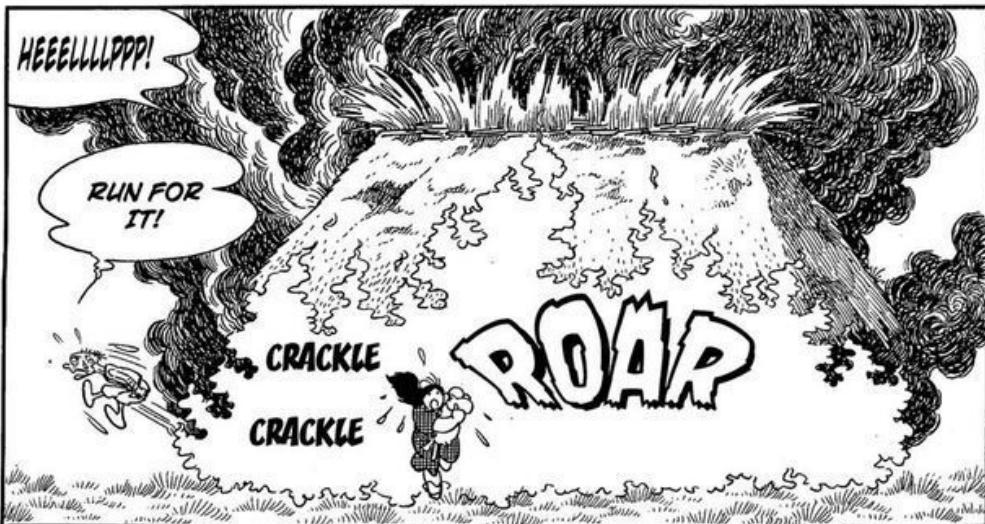


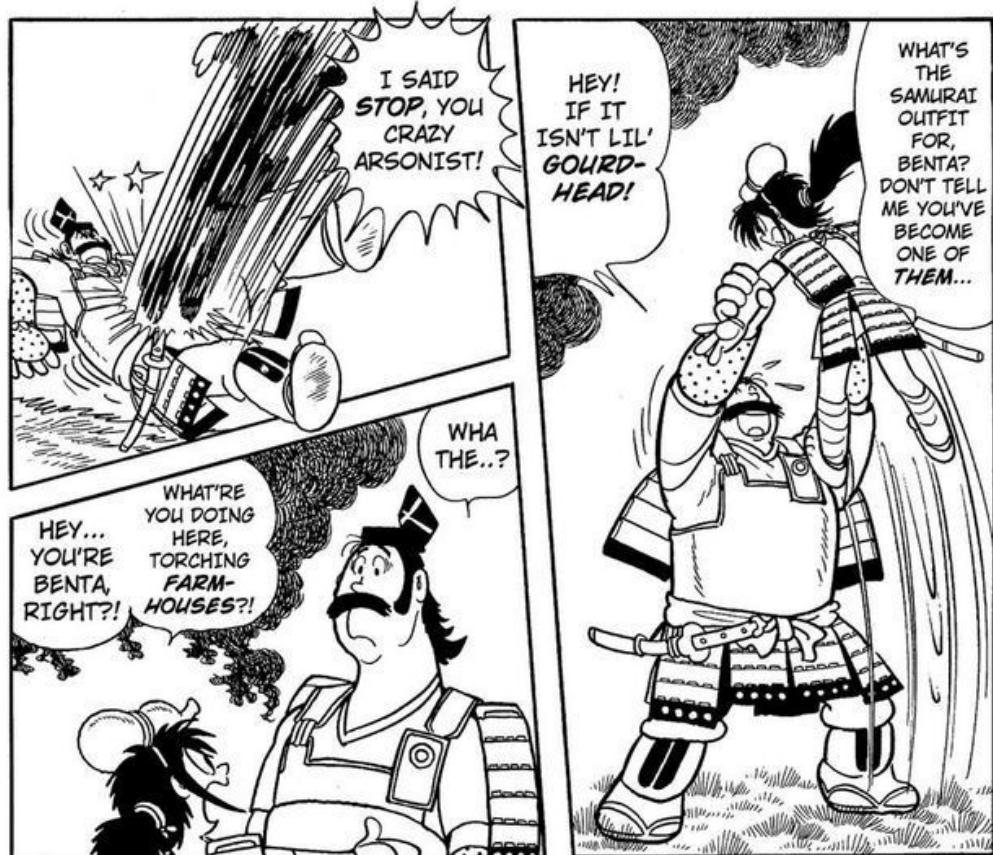












REASONS, SCHMEEZONS!  
I'M GONNA GO GIVE  
YOSHITSUNE-THE GUY WE  
KNEW AS USHIWAKA-A  
PIECE OF MY MIND! HE CAN  
GO TO WAR ALL HE LIKES,  
BUT WHEN HE'S KILLIN' AN'  
BURNIN' INNOCENT FOLKS,  
HE'S GOIN' TOO FAR!



NOW  
HOLD  
ON,  
GOURD-  
HEAD!



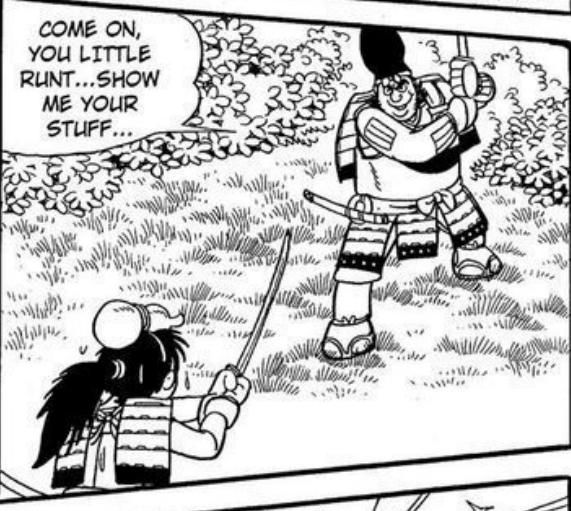
FORGET  
ABOUT  
MEETING  
HIM...HE  
MIGHT KILL  
YOU!

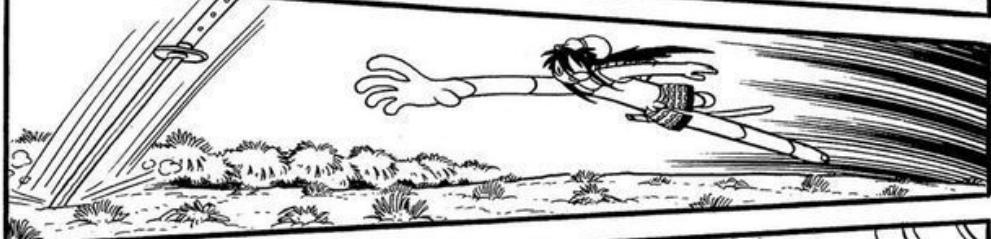
NO! I  
KNOW  
USHIMARU...



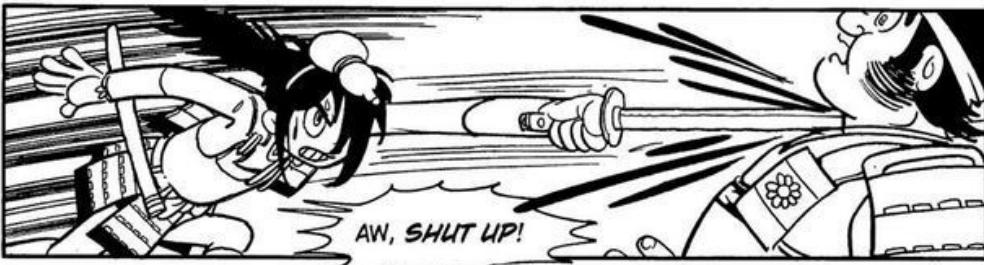
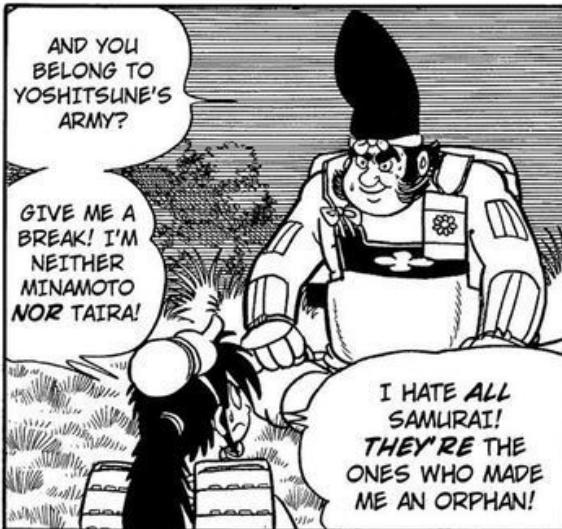
AN' I KNOW  
HE'LL LISTEN  
TO ME!

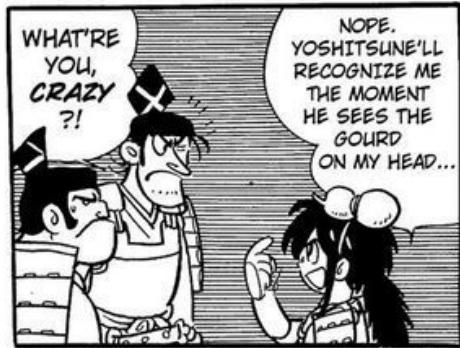
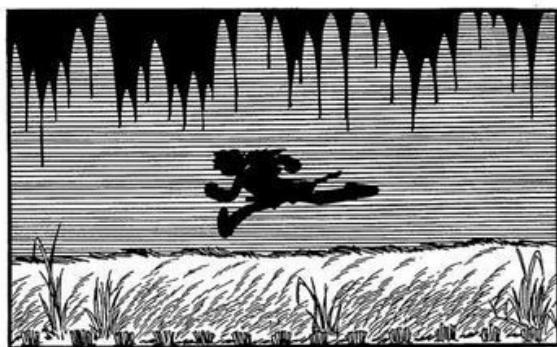
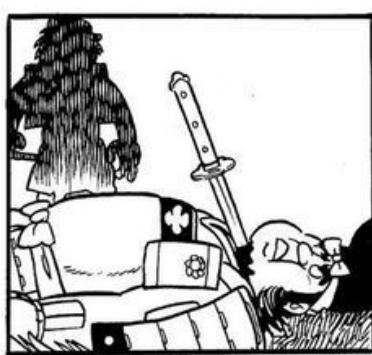
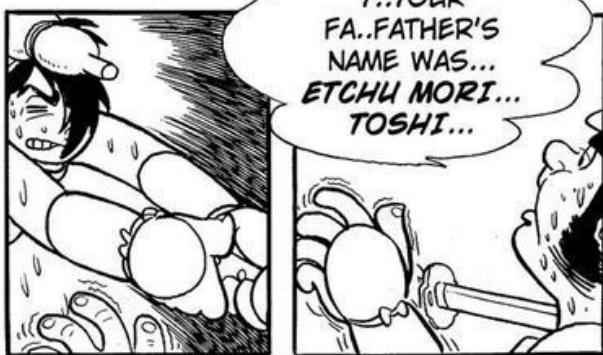
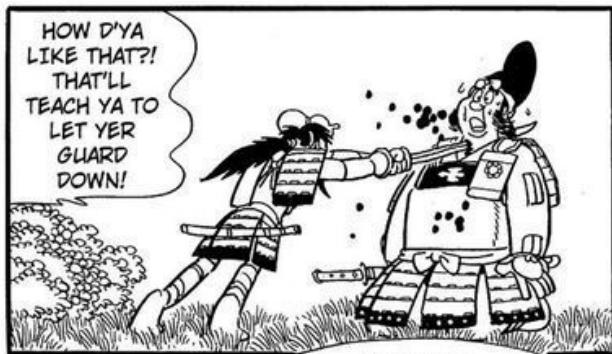












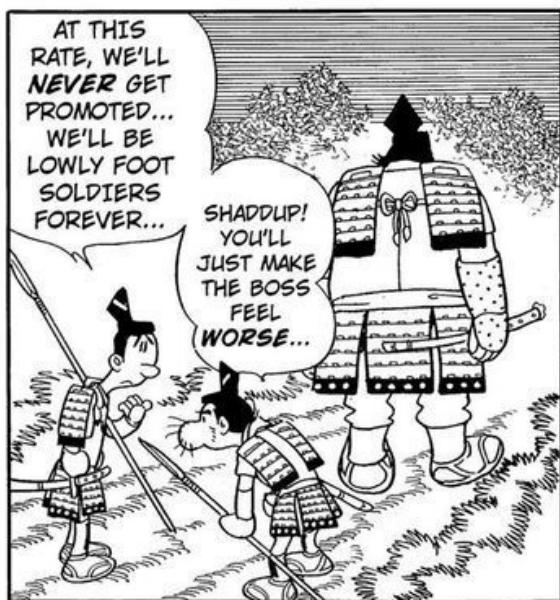


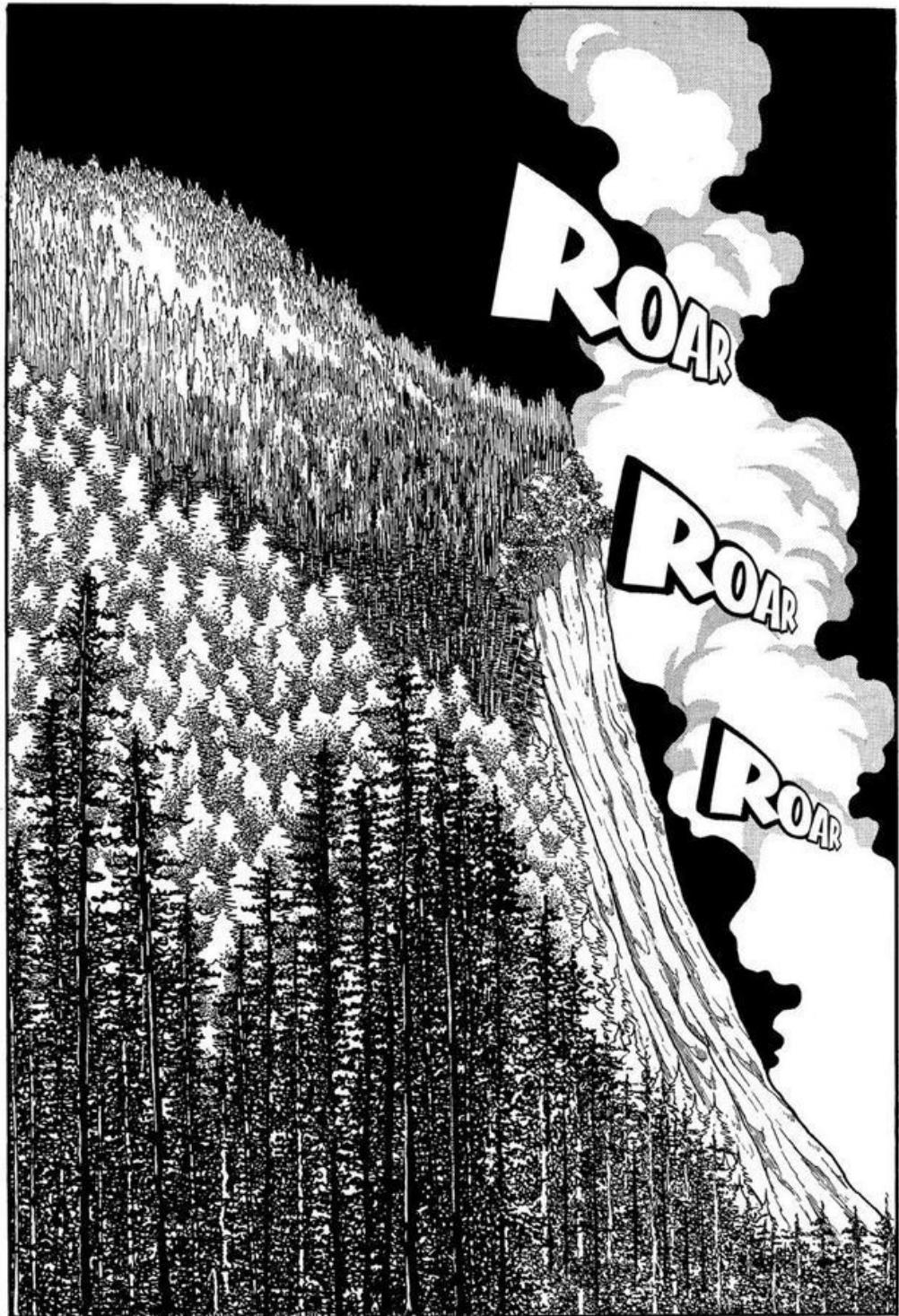




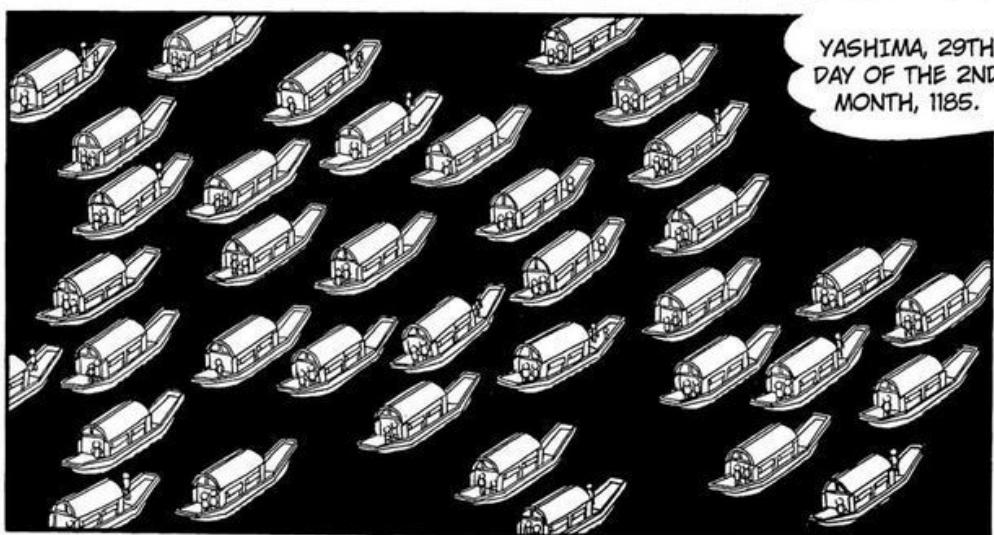


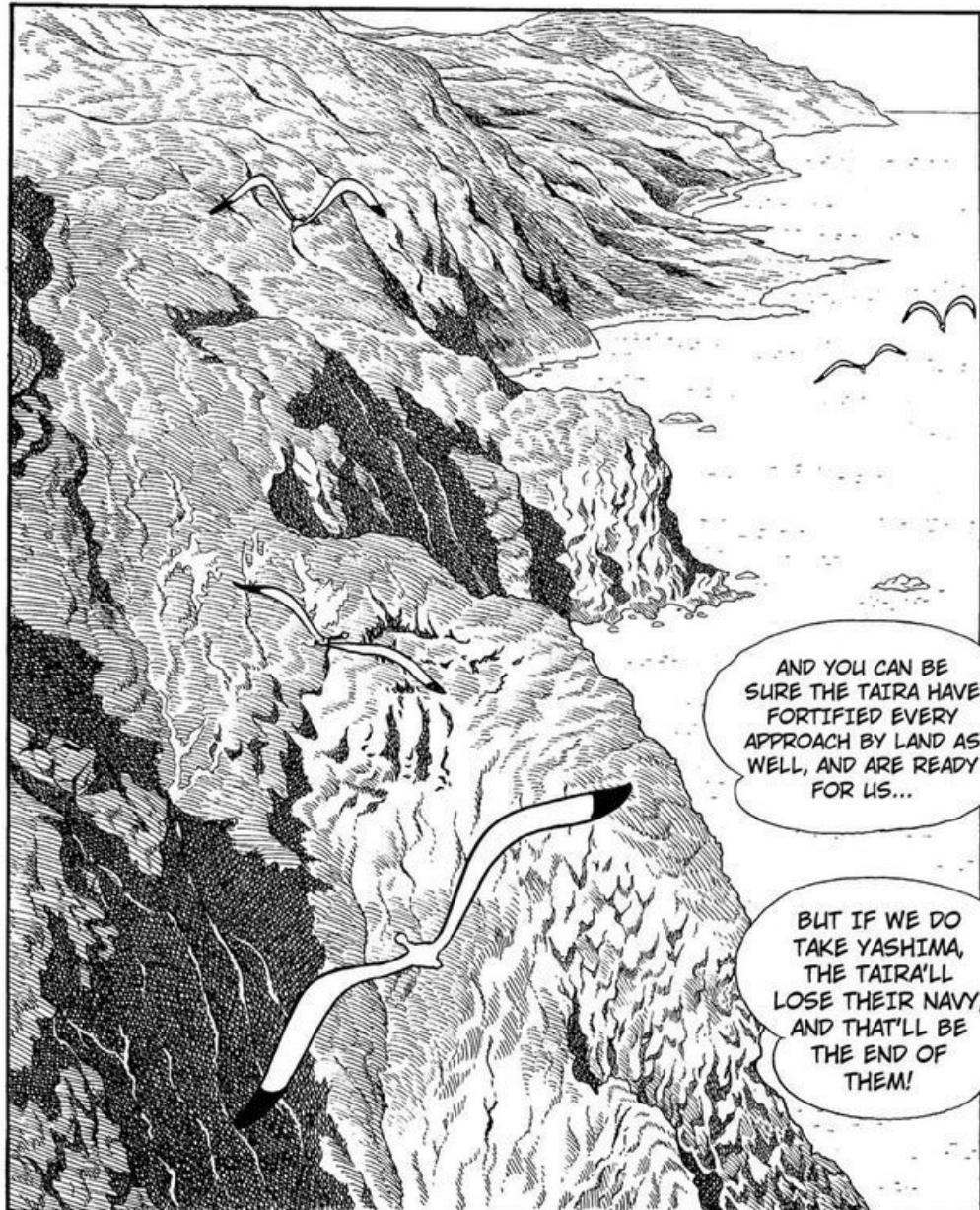
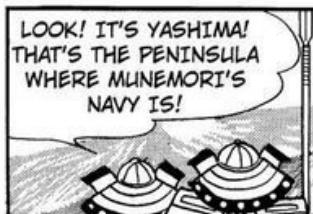


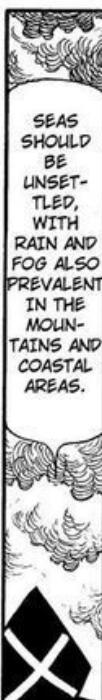




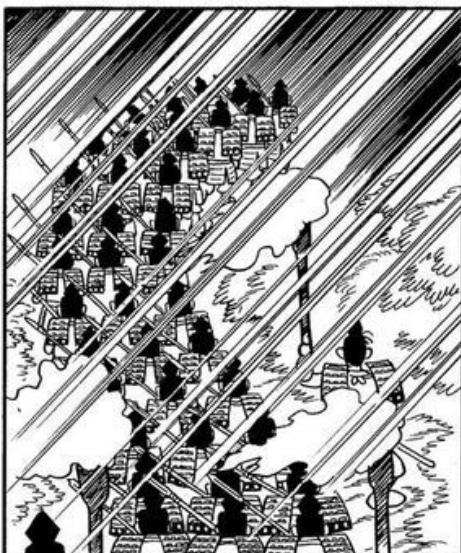












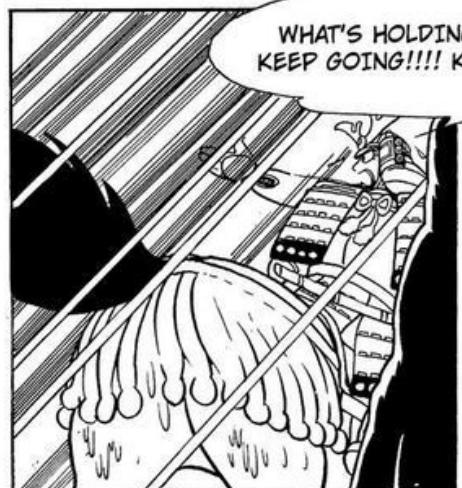




LISTEN, EVERYONE! STICK TIGHT  
TO THE CLIFF, AND DON'T LOOK  
DOWN! JUST KEEP GOING!!!!

ROAR

WHAOOOSH



WHAT'S HOLDING YOU UP!!?  
KEEP GOING!!!! KEEP GOING!!!!



UM...  
I'M  
SCARED,  
BOSS...

SIR...IF WE CONTINUE LIKE THIS, WE'LL LOSE HALF OUR MEN IN THE STORM, BEFORE THE BATTLE EVEN BEGINS...

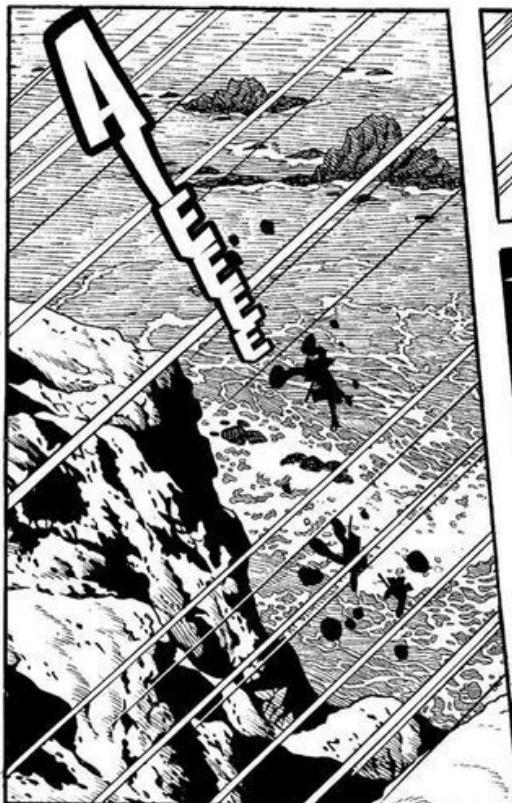
SO WHAT? THEY'RE ONLY FOOT SOLDIERS! THE MOST IMPORTANT THING NOW IS JUST TO REACH ENEMY LINES!

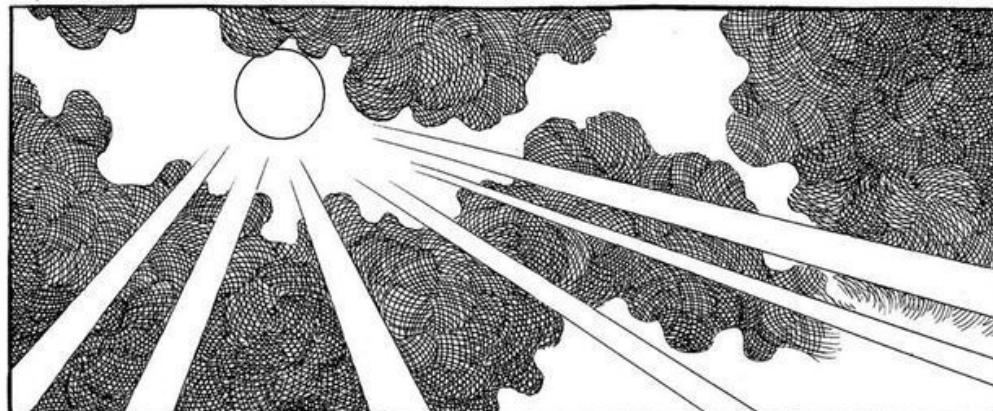
SHOW US SOME BACKBONE, YOU COWARDS!

I WISH I'D HAD TIME FOR THAT SECOND BOWL OF STEW...

**BASH**

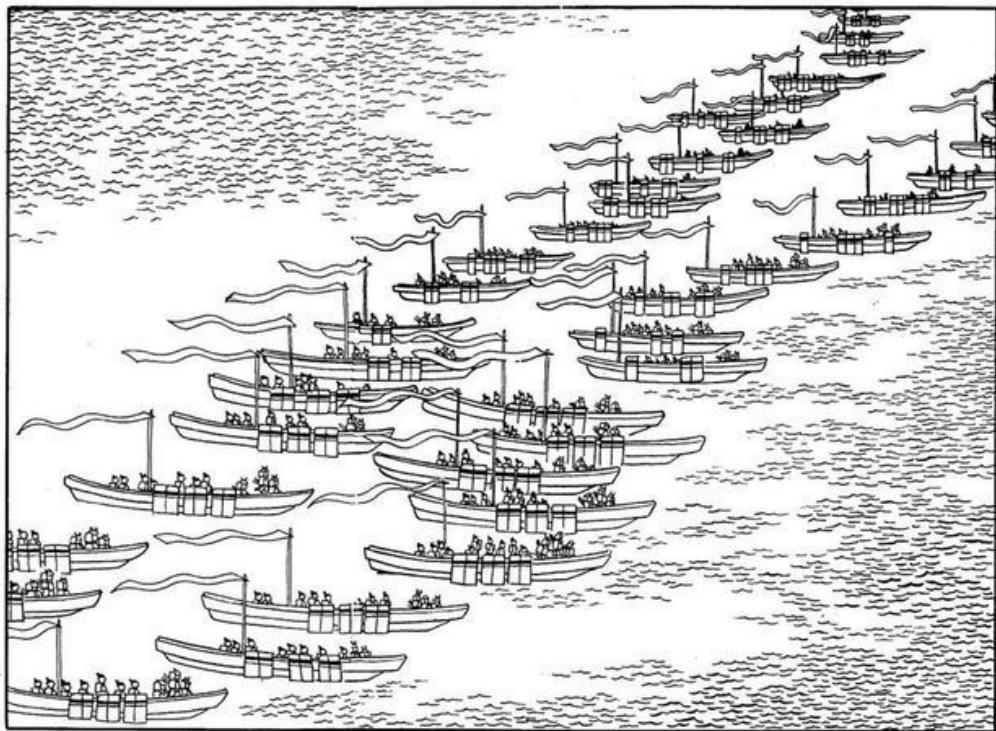




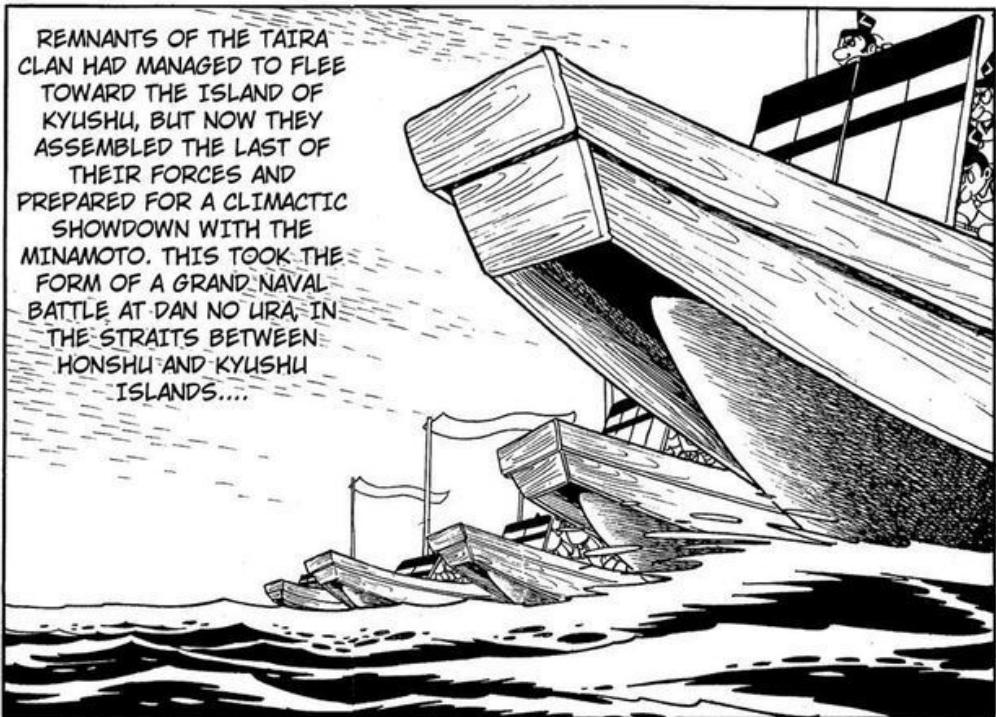


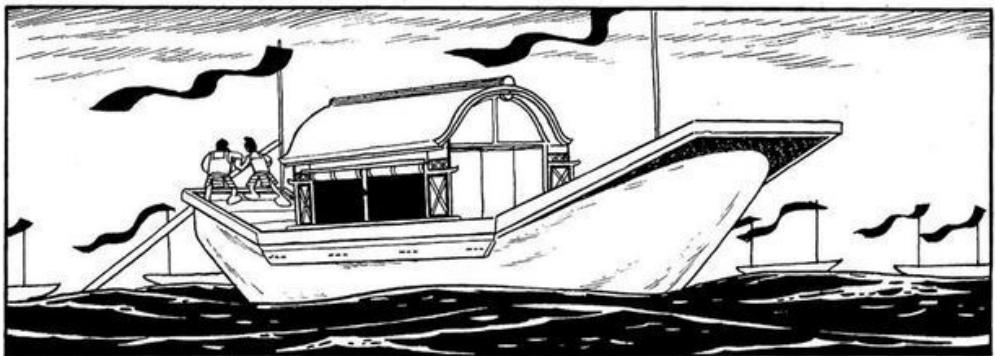
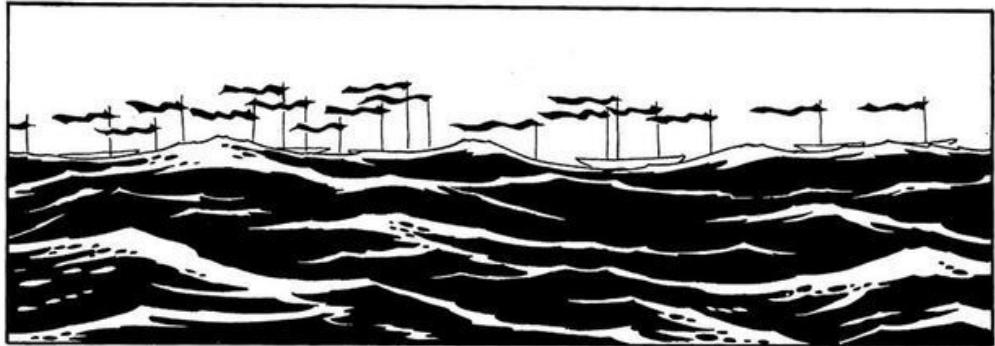


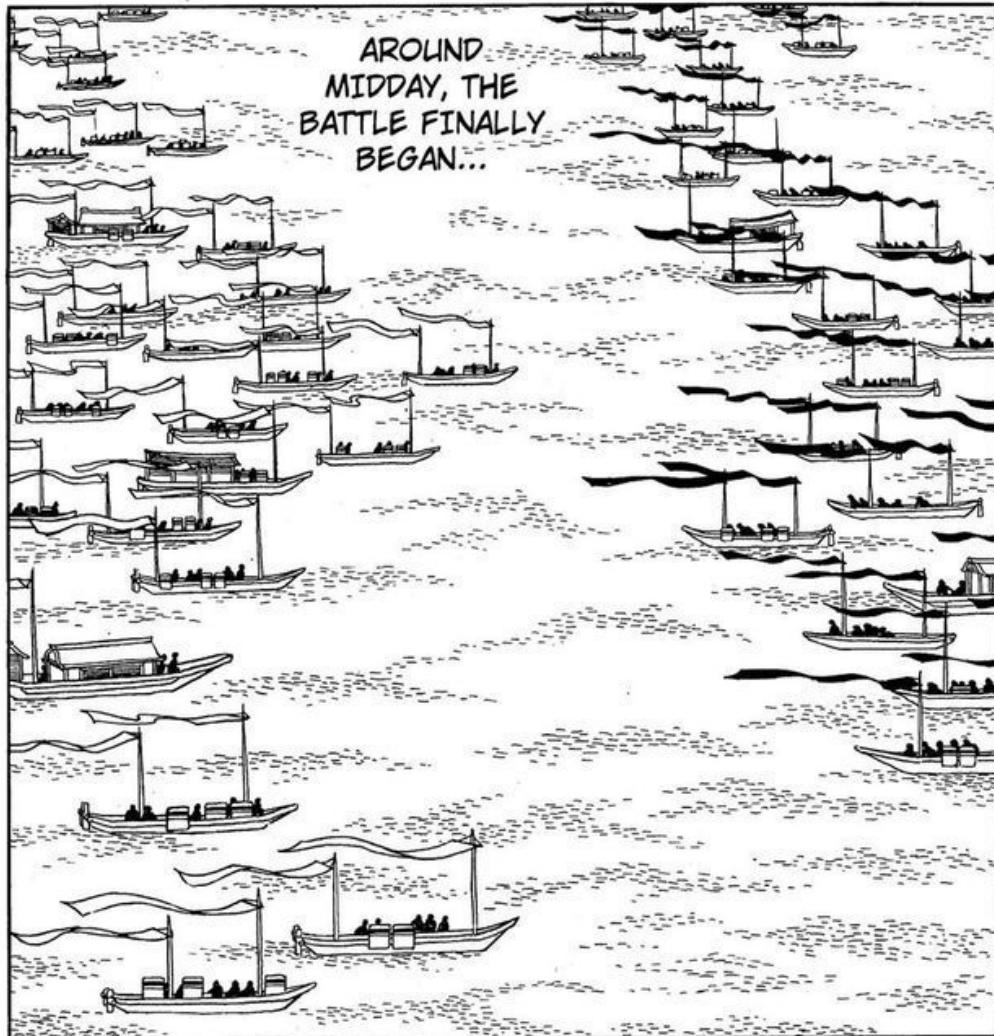
AFTER YOSHITSUNE DEFEATED  
THE TAIRA FORCES AT  
YASHIMA, ON THE 24TH  
DAY OF THE 3RD MONTH,  
1185, THE DAY OF FINAL  
RECKONING ARRIVED...

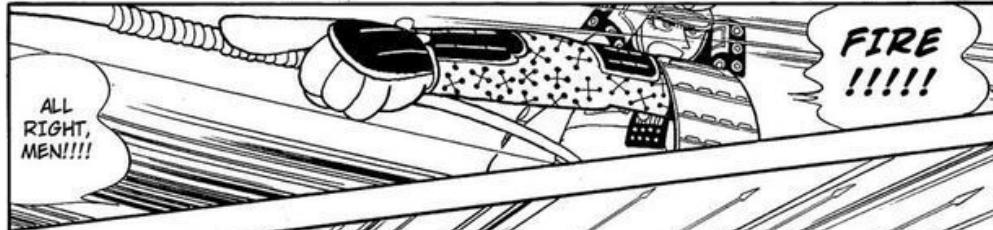
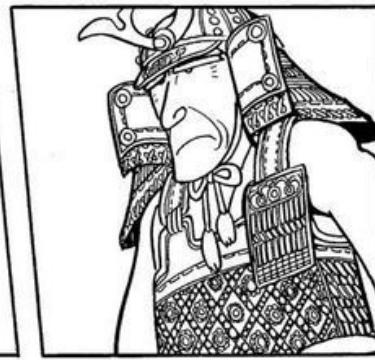


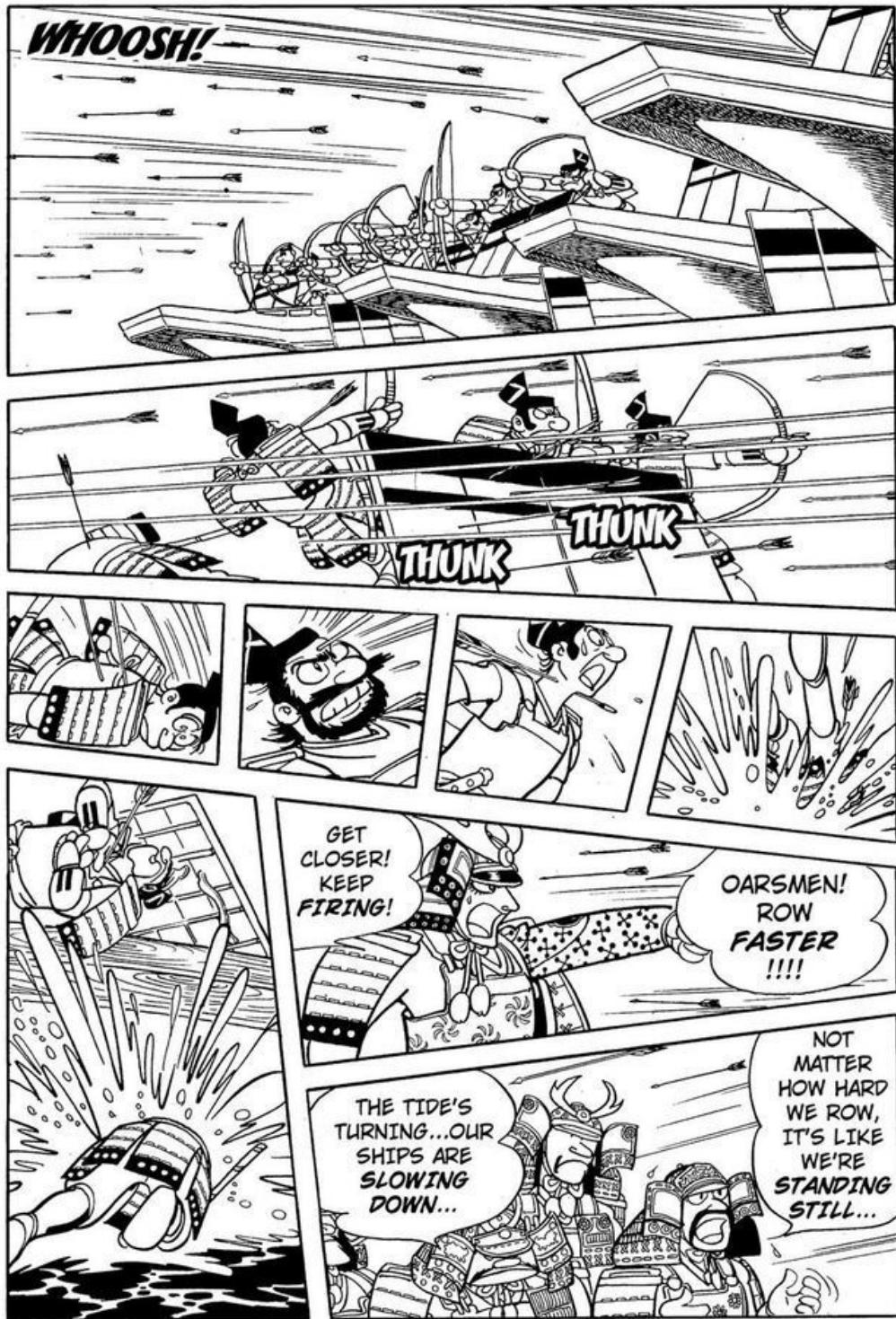
REMNANTS OF THE TAIRA CLAN HAD MANAGED TO FLEE TOWARD THE ISLAND OF KYUSHU, BUT NOW THEY ASSEMBLED THE LAST OF THEIR FORCES AND PREPARED FOR A CLIMACTIC SHOWDOWN WITH THE MINAMOTO. THIS TOOK THE FORM OF A GRAND NAVAL BATTLE AT DAN NO URA, IN THE STRAITS BETWEEN HONSHU AND KYUSHU ISLANDS....

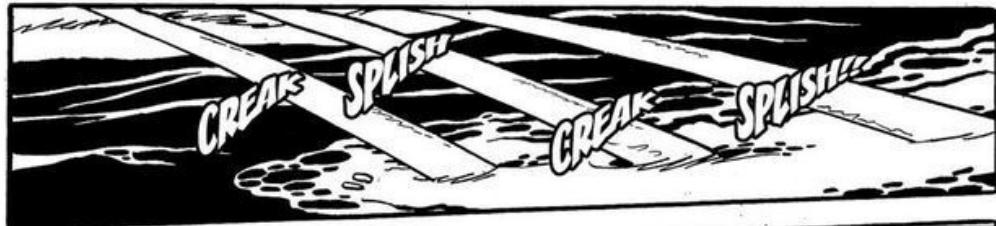


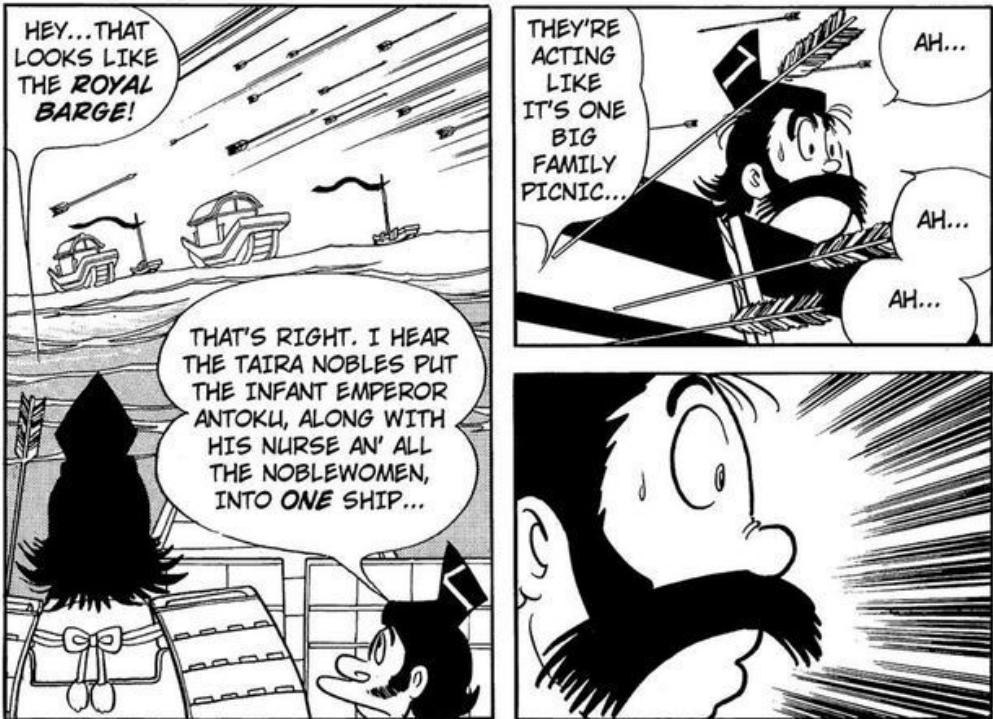
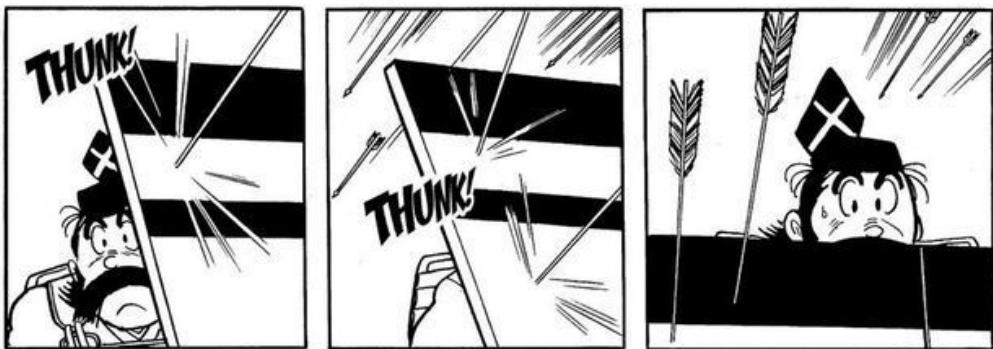


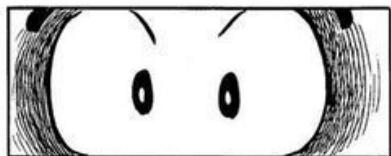
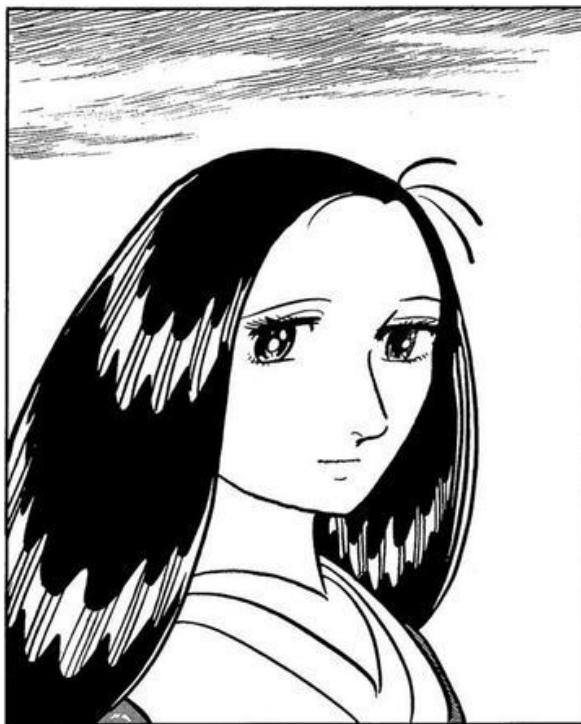
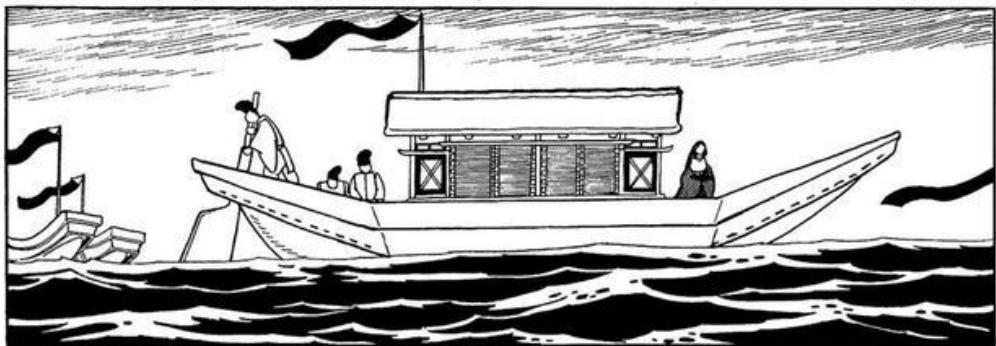












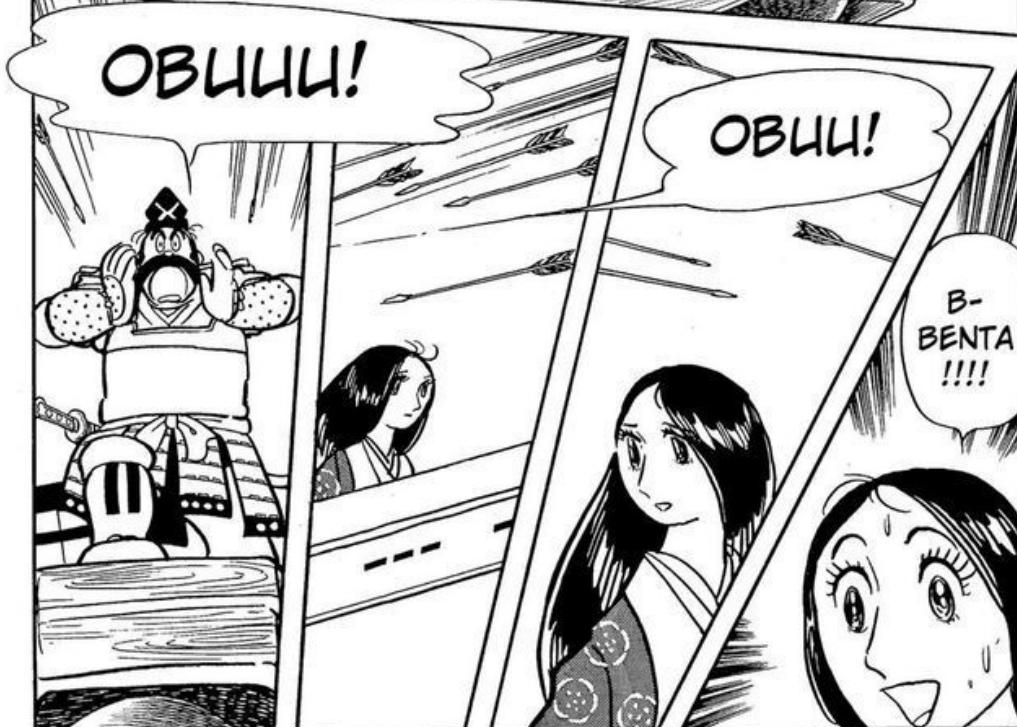
OBU!!!!



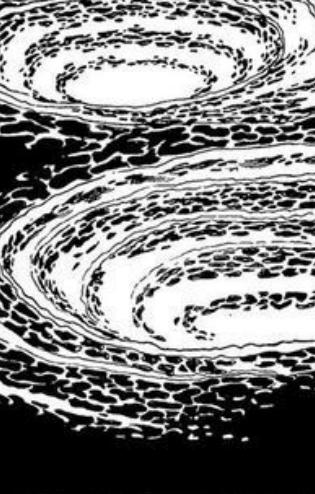
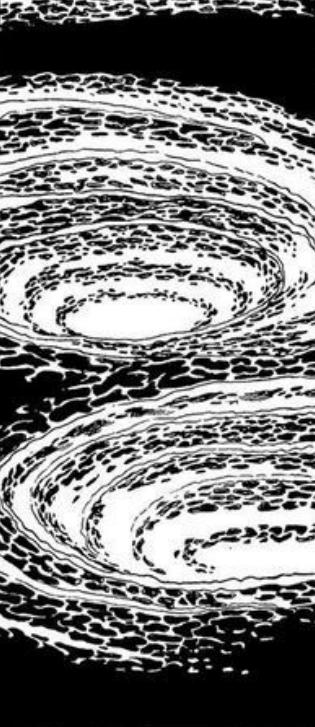
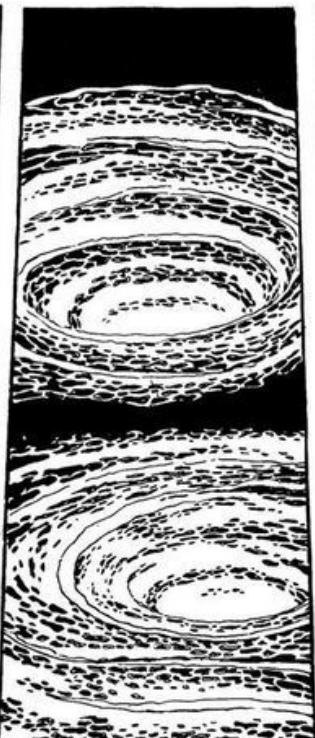


NO DOUBT  
ABOUT IT...  
IT IS  
OBU...

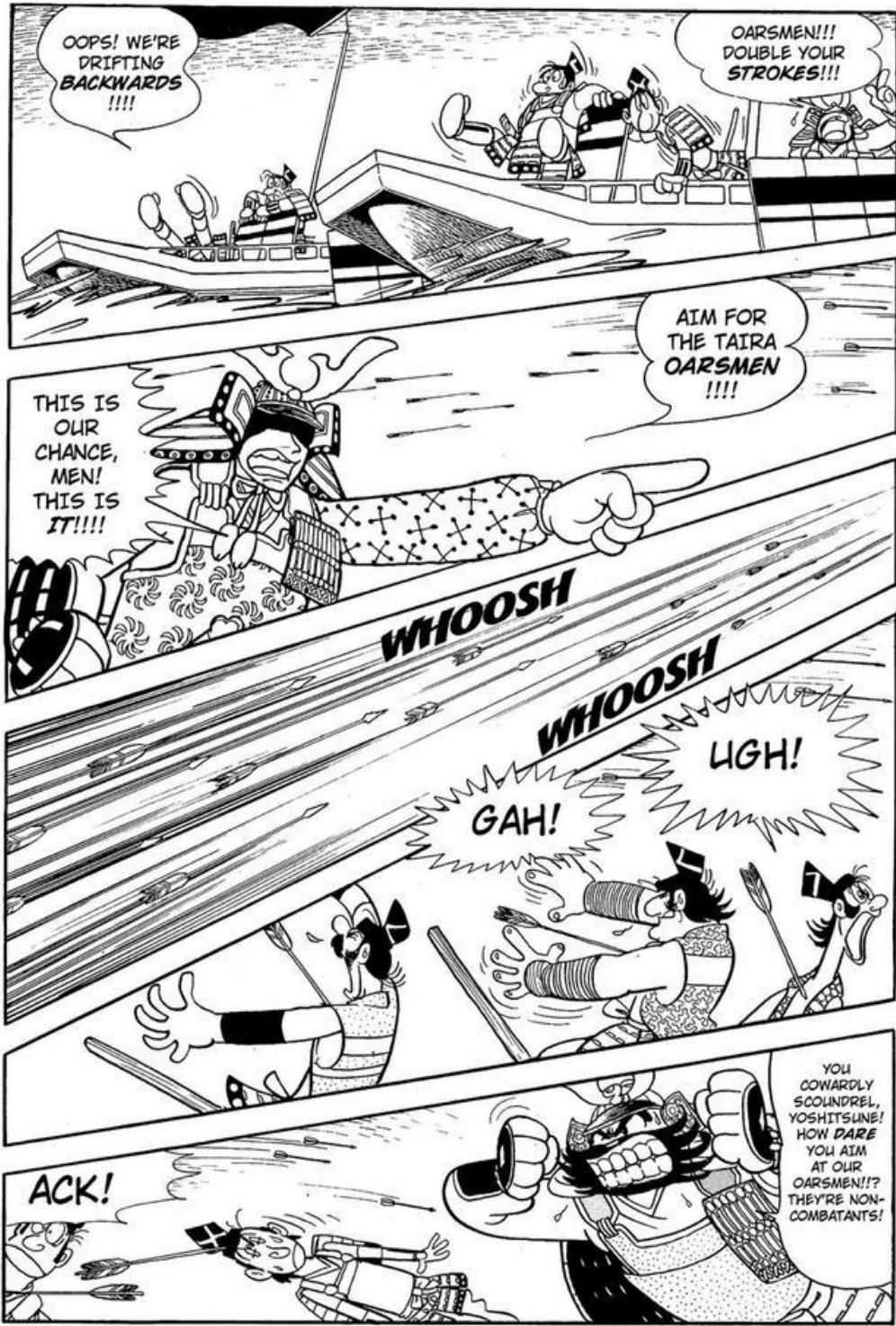
SHE'S  
ALIVE...I'VE  
GOTTA GO  
TO HER!!



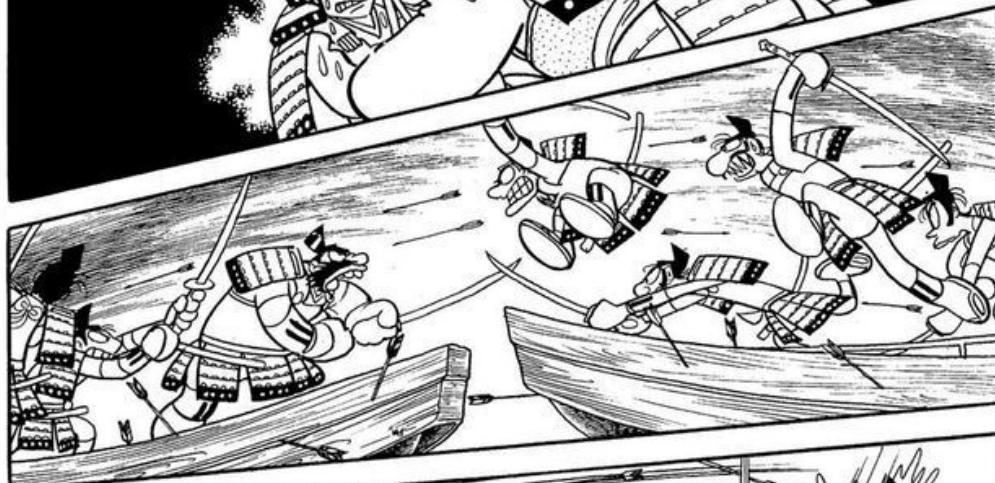
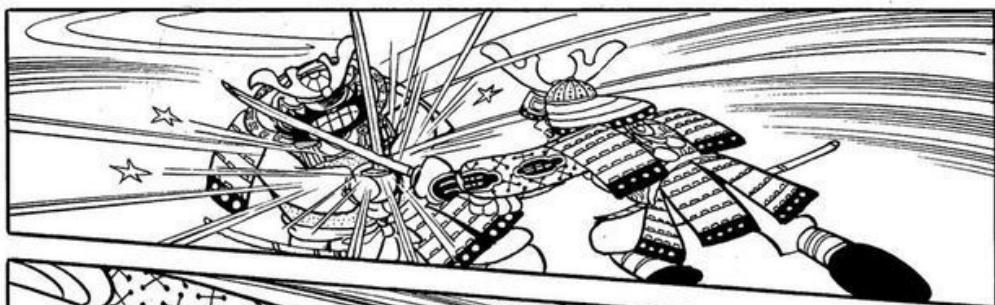


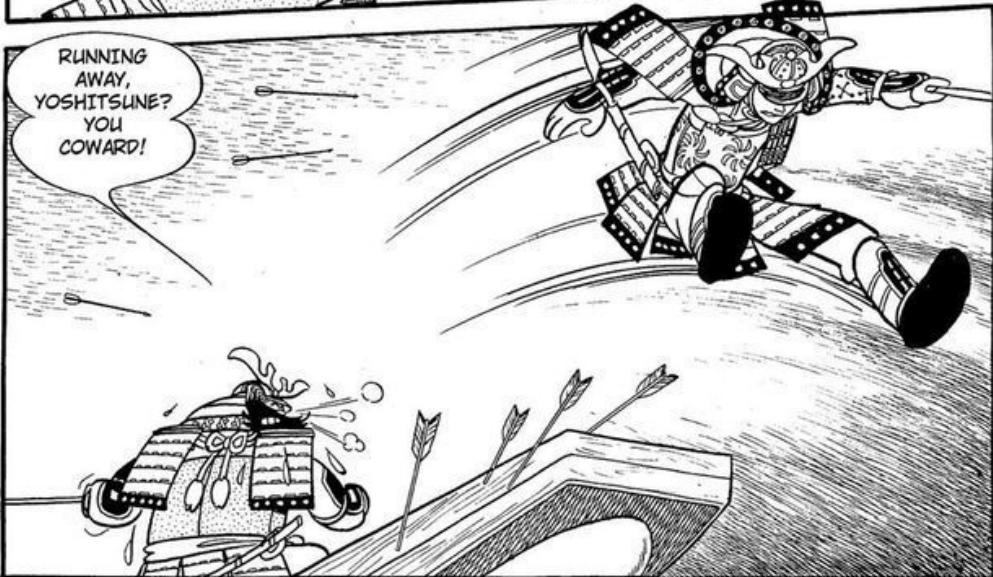
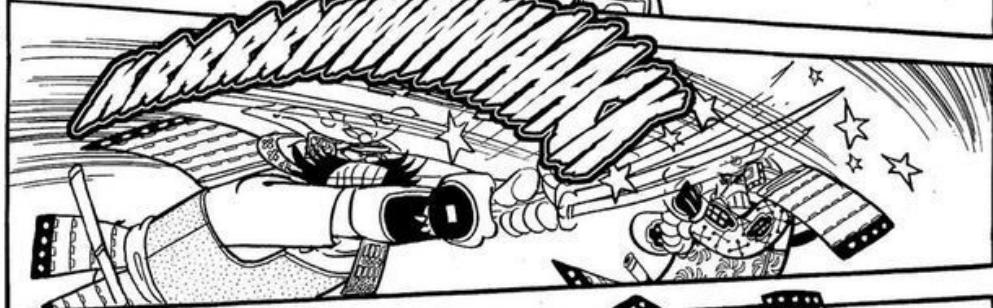
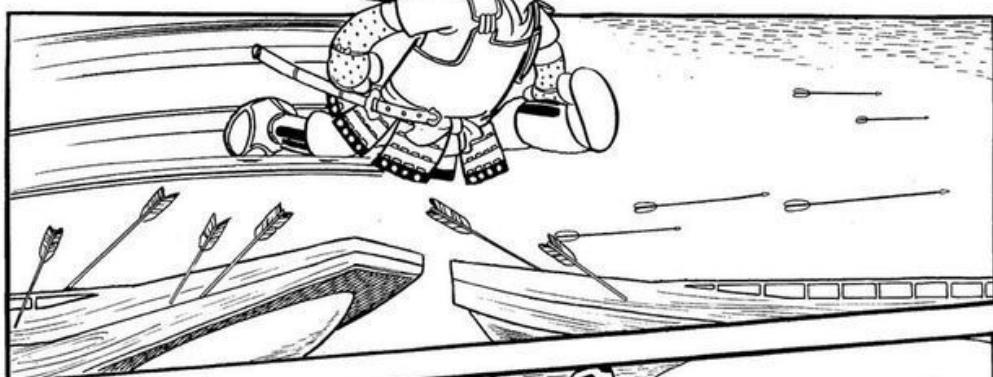


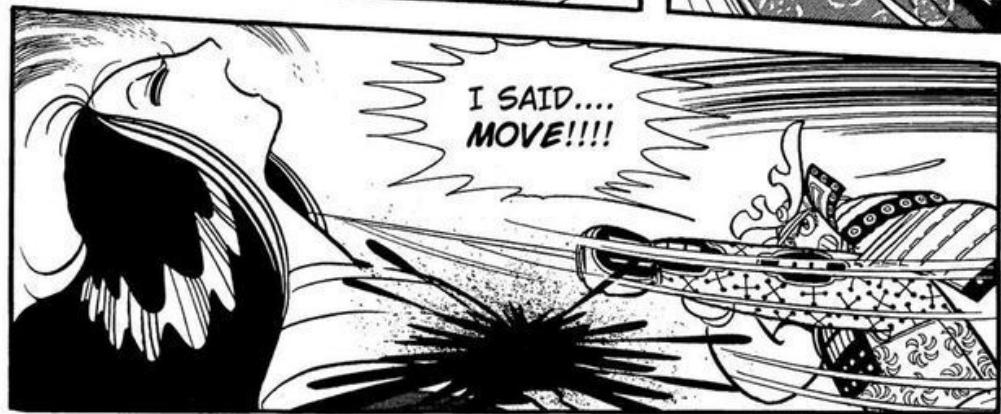


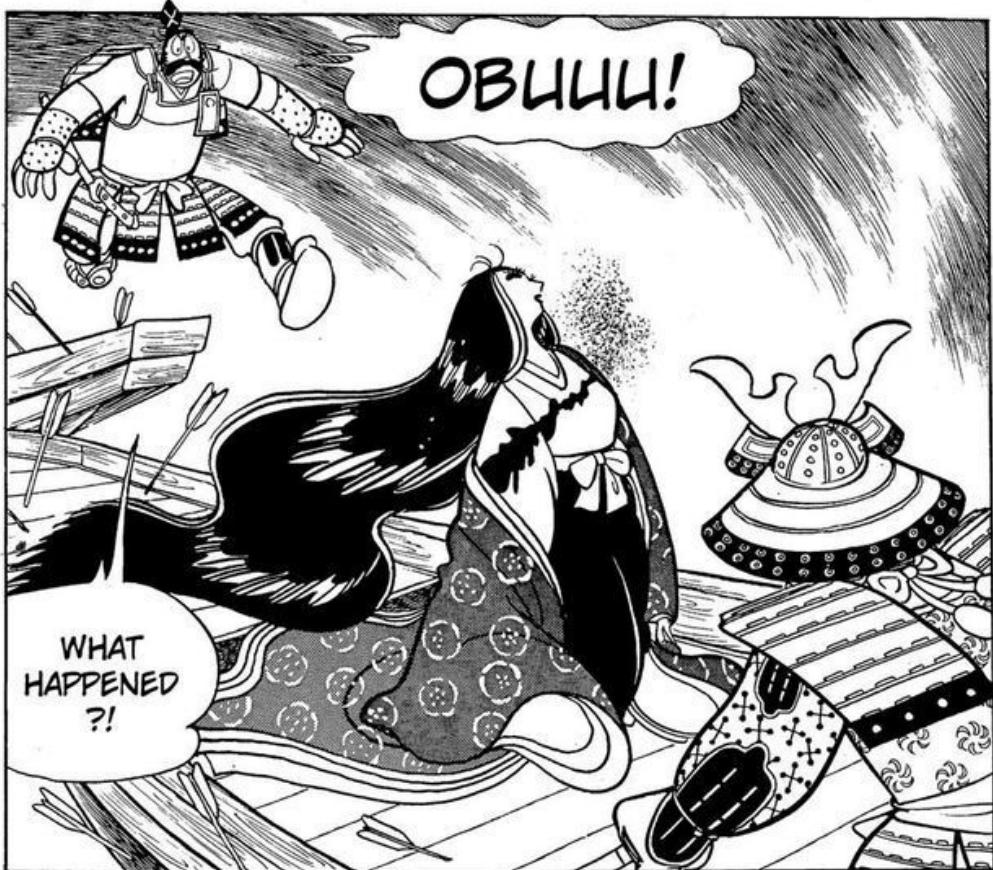


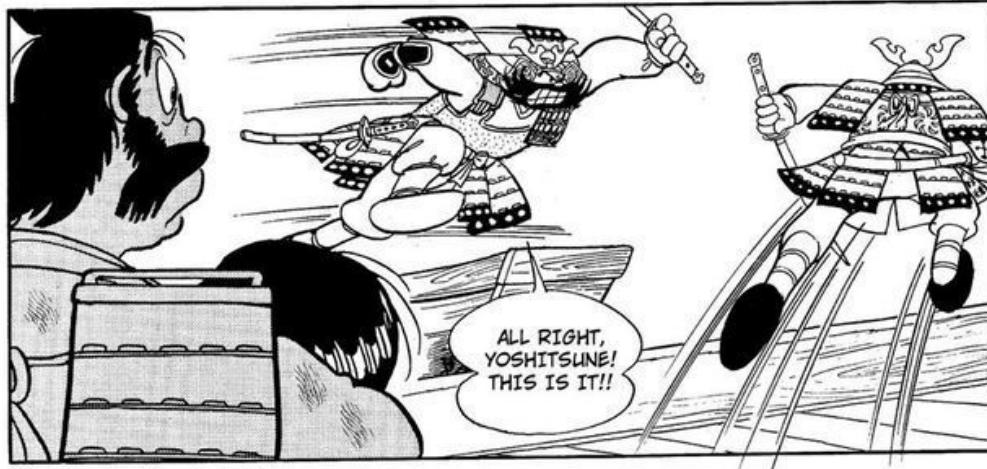


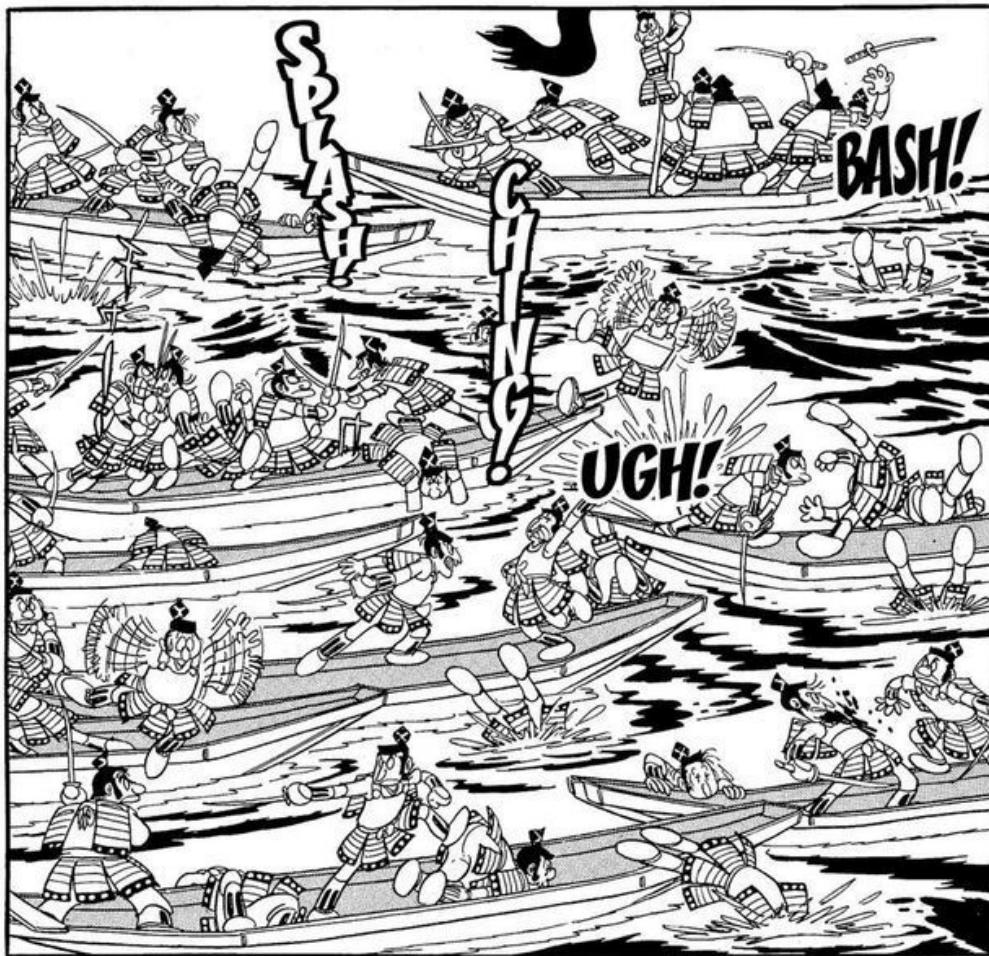


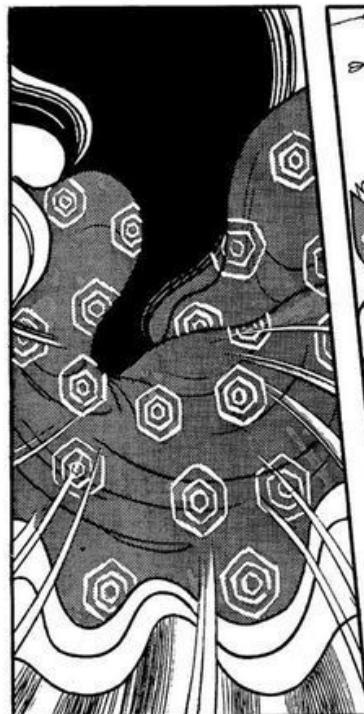


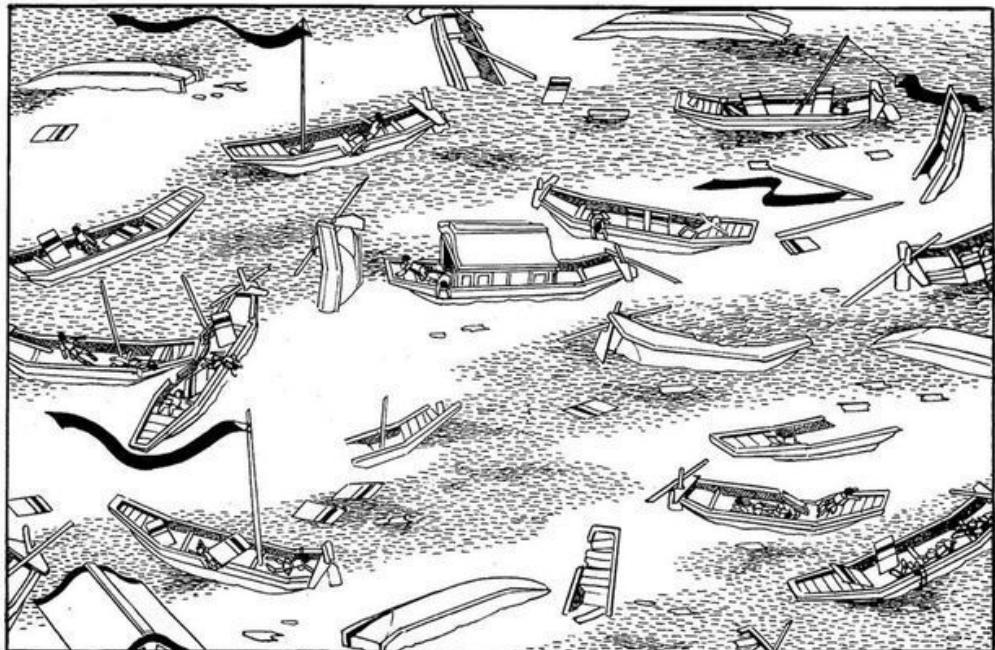
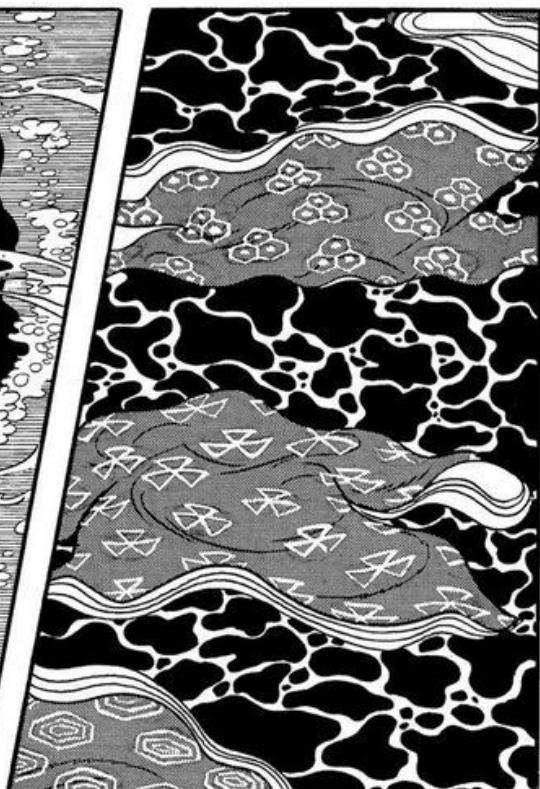
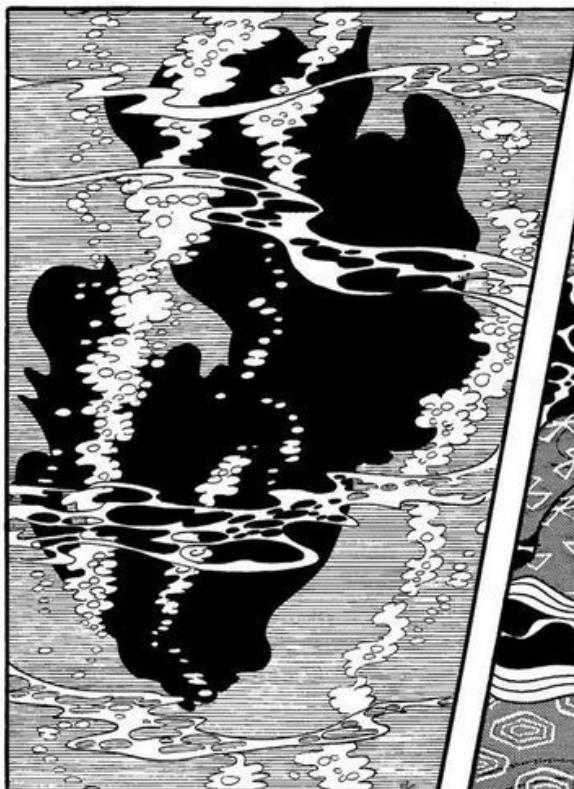


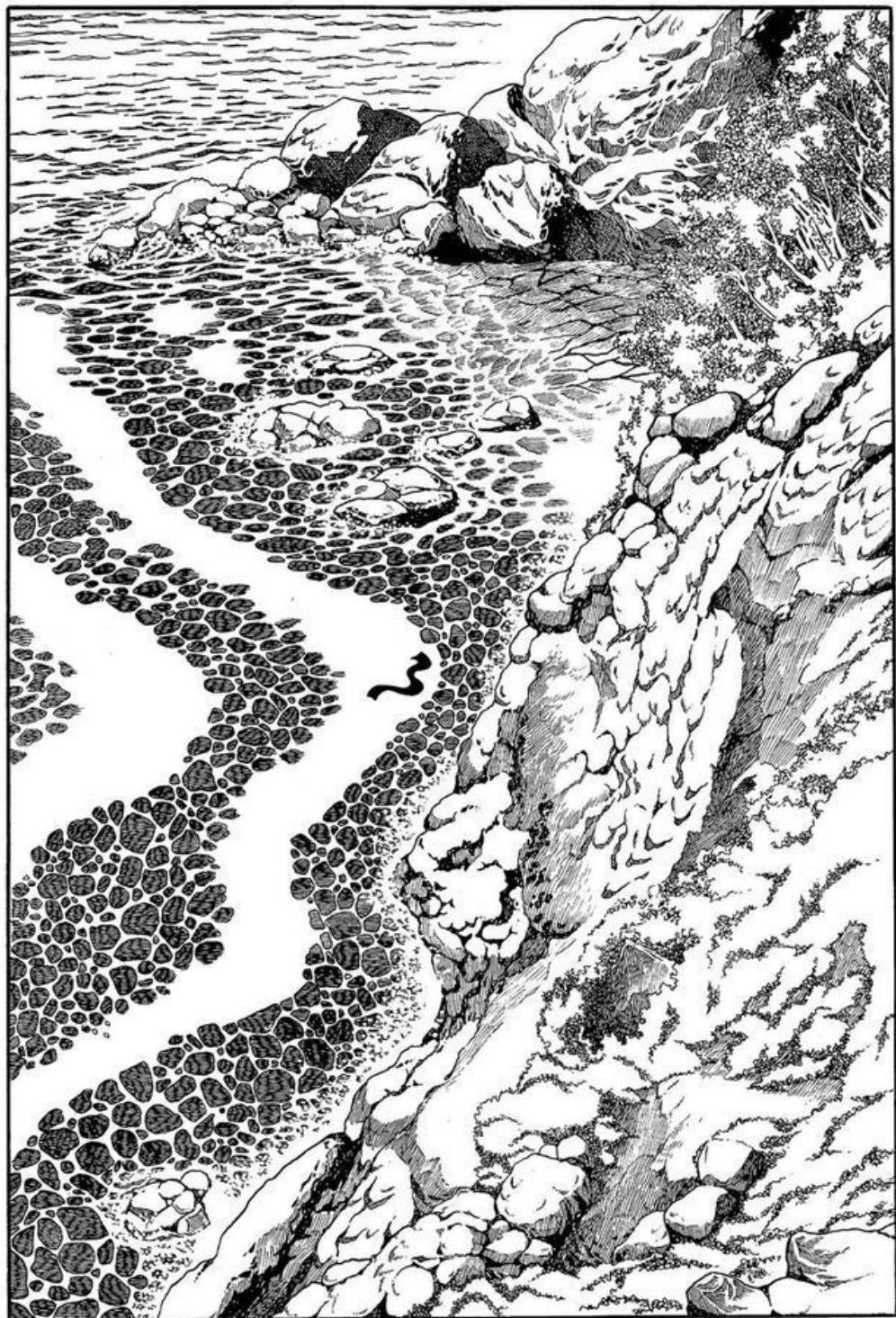


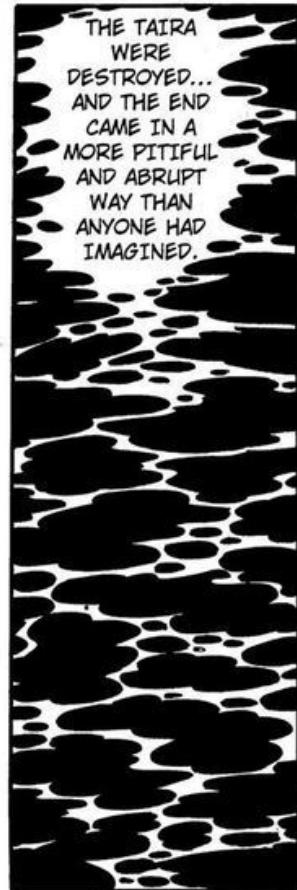
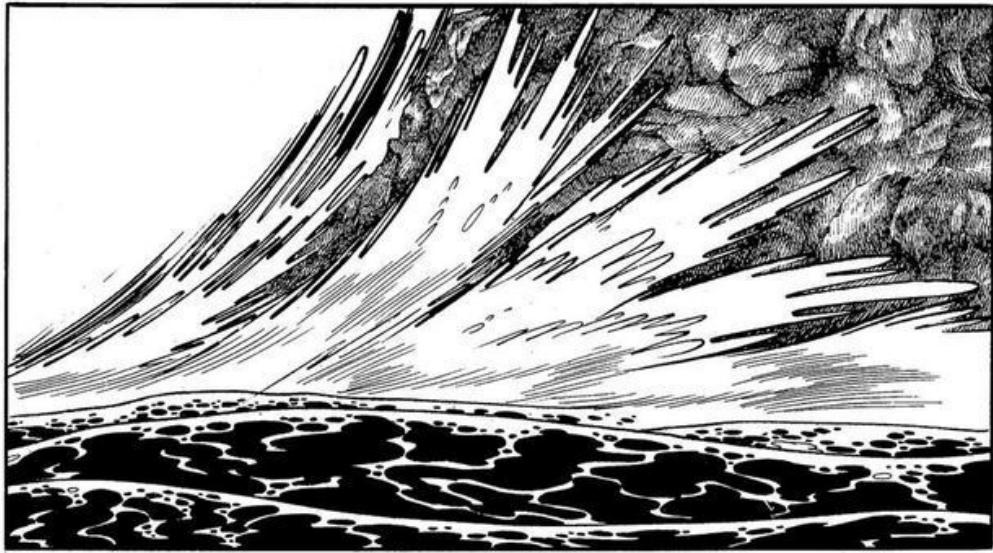












IT IS OUR PLEASURE TO INFORM LORD MINAMOTO NO YORITOMO THAT THE TAIRA EMPEROR HAS BEEN SENT TO THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.

MOREOVER, THE FOLLOWING HAVE MET THE SAME FATE:

ALL OF THE UPPER-RANKING NUNS, COUNSELOR TAIRA NO NORIMORI, DEPUTY COUNSELOR TAIRA NO TOMOMORI, TAIRA NO YOSHIMORI, GENERAL OF THE THIRD-RANK TAIRA NO SUKEMORI, LT. GENERAL TAIRA NO ARIMORI, AND COMMANDER TAIRA NO YUKIMORI.

THE LADY KENREIMON-IN AND THE YOUNG IMPERIAL PRINCE WERE SAVED.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN TAKEN CAPTIVE:

COUNSELOR TAIRA NO MUNEMORI, GRAND COUNSEL TAIRA NO TOKIMORI, MINISTER OF THE RIGHT TAIRA NO KIYOMUNE, FORMER DEPUTY OF THE TREASURY TAIRA NO NOBUFUKA (ALTHOUGH WOUNDED), LT. GENERAL TAIRA NO TOKISANE, AS WELL AS VARIOUS SOLDIERS AND DEPENDENTS OF THE COURT.







